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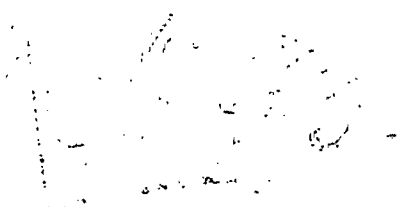

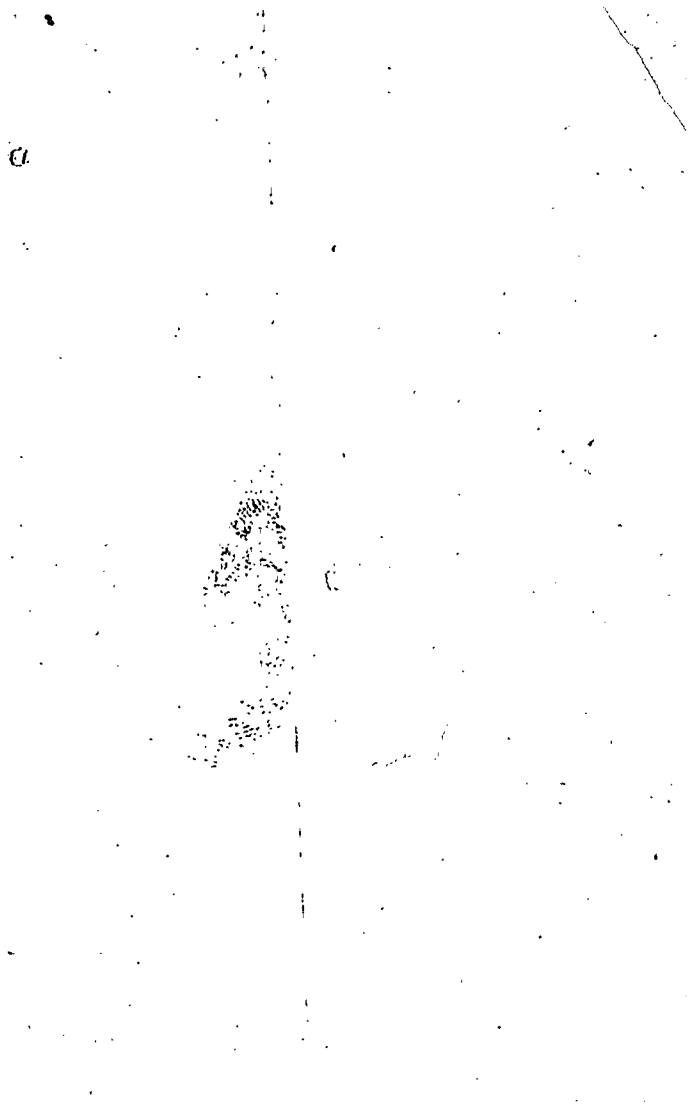

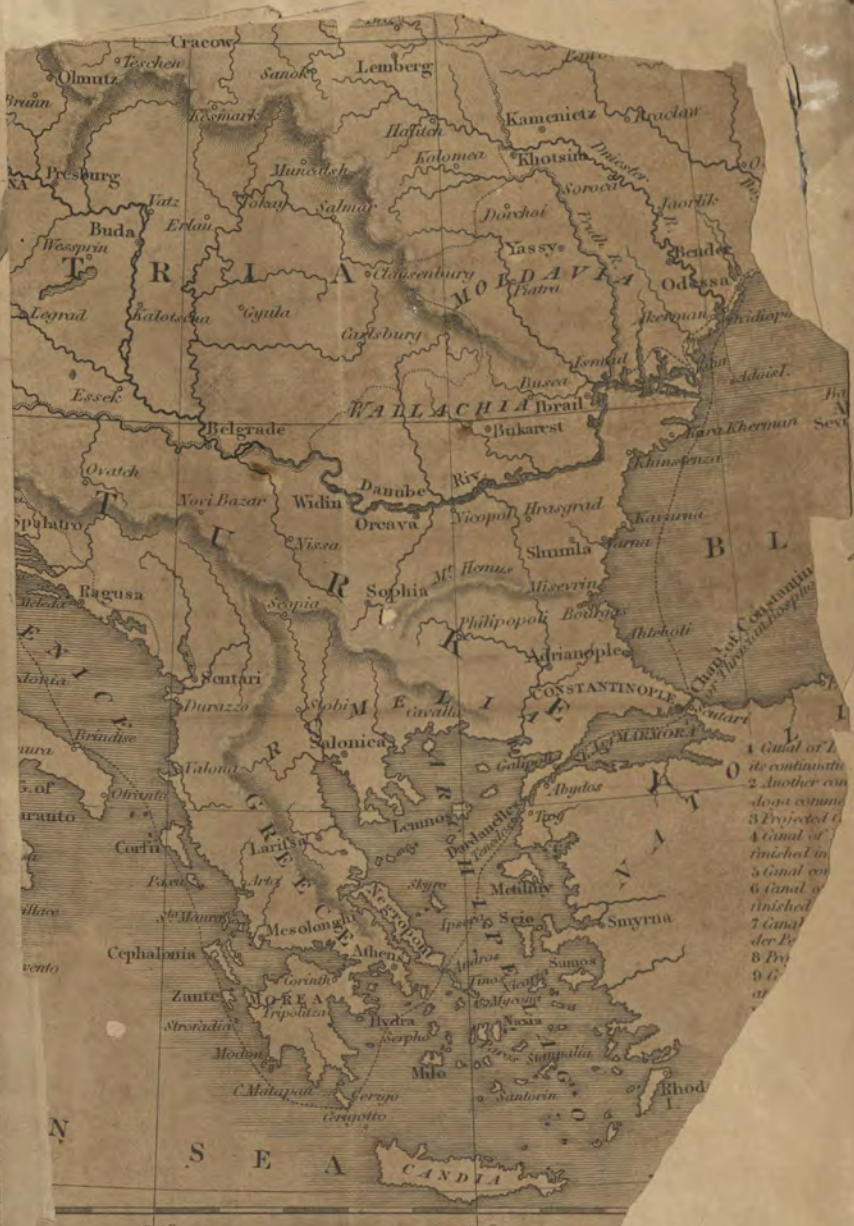

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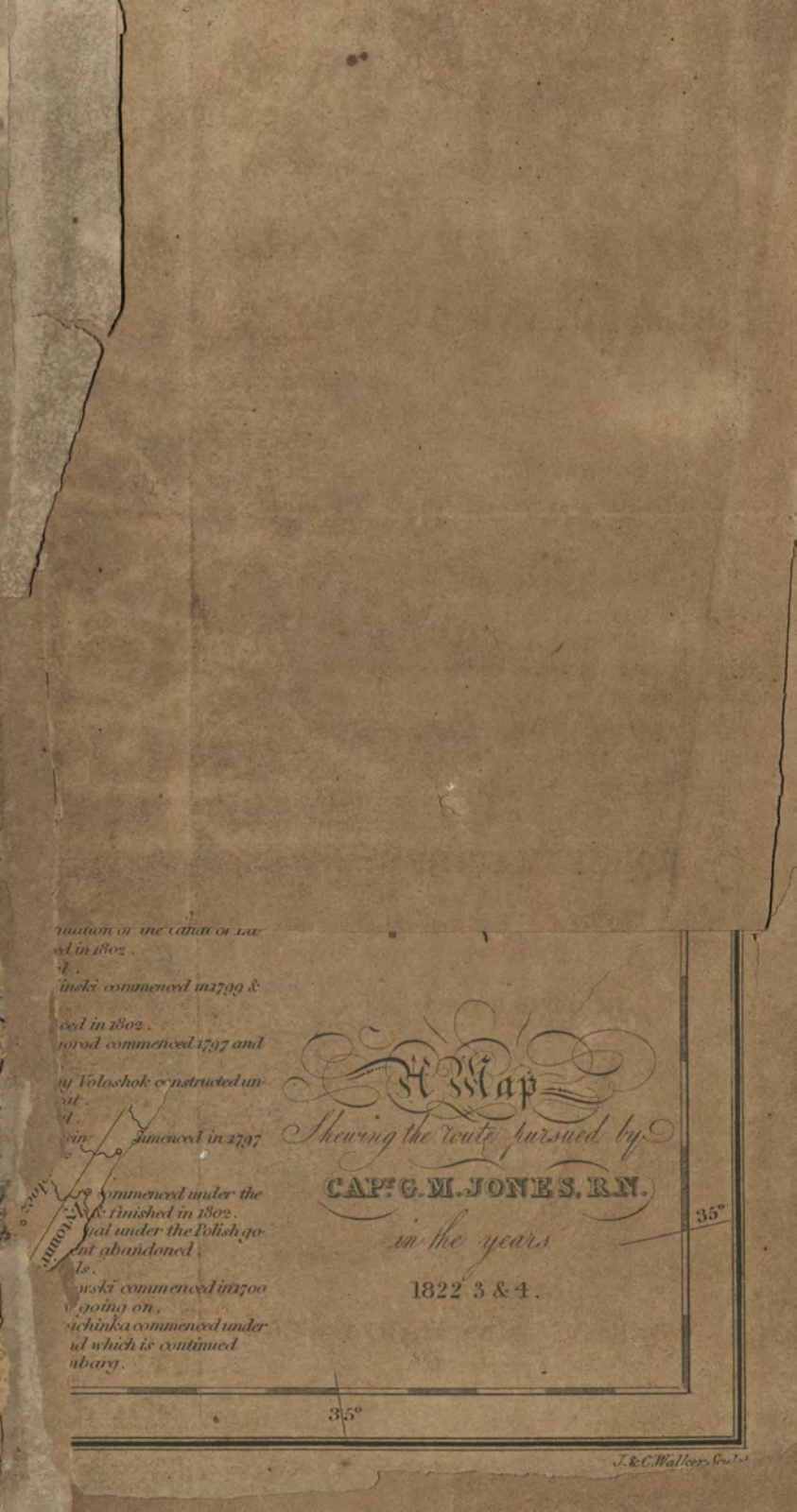
A Map
Shewing the route pursued by
CAPT. G. M. JONES, R.N.
in the years
1822 3 & 4.
35°
35°
J. & C. Walker, Sculpt.

FRANCE
GERMANY
SWITZ.
AUS
ITALY
SICILY
AFRICA
MEDITERRANEAN
PARIS
Luxemburg
Mentz
Frankfort
Coburg
Bamberg
Prague
Pilsen
Iglau
Metz
Manheim
Nancy
Strasburg
Baden
Stuttgart
Anspach
Ratisbon
Danube R.
Munich
Passau
Lintz
Kempten
Basel
Constanz
Berne
Lausanne
Geneva
Lyons
Chambery
Valence
Rhone R.
Montpellier
Avignon
Marseille
Toulon
Hyeres I.
Nevers
Dijon
Chalons
Clermont
Orleans
Troyes
Melun
Beauvais
Rhine R.
Inspruck
Salzburg
Villach
Trent
Vicenza
Padua
Dolo
Venice
Trieste
Agram
Karlstadt
Milan
Como
Turin
Alexandria
Genoa
Parma
Bologna
Ravenna
Rimini
Ancona
Loretta
Florence
Leghorn
Fattara
Orbitello
Bastia
Elba
Corte
CORSICA
St. of Bonifacio
Sassari
Terra Nova
SARDINIA
Oristano
Cagliari
Tiber R.
ROME
Teramo
Orsona
Naples
Salerno
Ascoli
Manfredo
Lipari
Palermo
Maritimo
Melazza
Catania
Syracuse
Gurgenti
Sciacca
TUNIS
C. Bon
Malta
Olmutz
Presbu
Sebenic
Lesina
Curzola
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Pelagosa
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Cose
Tropea
Cape Spa
Messina
Mantua
Pescia
Lucca
Pisa
Leghorn
Fiume
Rhone R.
Sospella
Antibes
Nice
Tende
Savona
G. OF GENOA
Corsica
Sardinia
Sicily
Malta
45°
40°
10°
15°
East of Greenwich

TRAVELS

IN

NORWAY, SWEDEN, FINLAND, RUSSIA, AND TURKEY;

ALSO ON THE COASTS OF THE

84407

SEA OF AZOF AND OF THE BLACK SEA:

WITH

A REVIEW OF THE TRADE IN THOSE SEAS, AND OF THE SYSTEMS ADOPTED TO MAN THE FLEETS OF THE DIFFERENT POWERS OF EUROPE, COMPARED WITH THAT OF ENGLAND.

X.b.23

BY GEORGE MATTHEW JONES,
CAPTAIN, R.N.

IN TWO VOLUMES.

VOL. I.

LONDON:
JOHN MURRAY, ALBEMARLE-STREET.

MDCCCXXVII.

84407

LONDON:
PRINTED BY WILLIAM CLOWES,
14, Charing Cross.

TO

SIR WILLIAM HOSTE, BART.,

K.C.B. AND K.M.T.

CAPTAIN OF HIS MAJESTY'S YACHT, ROYAL SOVEREIGN,

&c &c. &c.

MY DEAR SIR,

Independently of the professional and private friendship with which you have been pleased to honour me, I feel it a particular duty, and a source of infinite gratification, to dedicate to you the following letters.

Suffering under a severe wound in 1808, and experiencing in your cabin that solicitous attention and kindness which you never failed to extend to everybody under your command who were wounded in the public service, I first received from you the suggestion of the benefit of keeping a private journal, and noting every morning the transactions of the preceding twenty-four hours. I considered this advice as an additional proof, that your high and gallant mind was far above the jealousy or suspicions

which but too often influence those in elevated and absolute commands.

I immediately availed myself of your suggestion; and have since found it of incalculable advantage. It is by keeping an accurate journal, that I was enabled during my travels, to write to various friends those letters which, with a few additions, I now venture to submit to the public under the sanction of your name, a name which must ever stand high in the naval annals of this country.

I have the honour to remain,

my dear Sir,

Your very faithful friend,

and most obedient, humble servant,

GEORGE MATTHEW JONES.

154, *Regent Street, April*, 1827.

CONTENTS OF THE FIRST VOLUME.

LETTER I.

Calais. Dunkerque. Furnes. Nieuport. Ostend. Ypres. Minin. Lys. Scheldt. Tournay. Fontenoy. Ghent. Antwerp. Fort Lillo. Brussels. Soignies. Mons. Renaix. Charleroi. Sambre. Fleures. Ligny. Namur. Dinant. Meuse. Port St. Nicolas. Huy. Liège. Aix la Chapelle. Cologne. Dusseldorf. Munster. Dorsten. Luxemburg. Leyden. Minden. St. Lambert. Bielefield. Herford. Lesse. Celle. Hanover. Harburg. Hamburg. Elbe. Alster. Altona, p. 1.

LETTER II.

Lubeck. River Trave. Bornholm. Eutin. Kiel. Rensburg. Sleswick. Gottorp. Flensburg. Holstein. Husum. Apenrade. Snoghoe. Middlesahrt. Funen. Odensee. Nyburg. Great Belt. Corsoer. Sproë. Slagence. Ringstadt. Roskieldt. Copenhagen. Island of Huen. Donningord. Charlottelune. Frederickburg. Rosenburg, p. 32.

LETTER III.

Elsineur. The Sound. Helsingburg. Cronburg. Camp at Udewalla. Tyringe. Roinge. Christianstadt. Bleckingen. Fjelkinge. Gädenry. Carlshamn. Runneby. Carlscrona. Aster. Djuromola. Wexio. Jonkoping. Wringstadt. Adelfors. Smoland. Eklanda. Alingsahs. Lake Mjoren. Lerum. Ledhester. Hagna. Götheborg, p. 55.

LETTER IV.

Marstrand. Kungälf. Tjuskil. River Gotha. Bohus. Lilla-Edet. Gerdhem. Trollhättan. Canal. Wenersborg. Halleborg and Hunneborg Mountains. Skjallered. Soortesborg. Wik. Stromstadt. Hogdal, River Glomen. Helle. Fredericksten. Frederickshall. Moss. Swinsund. Christiania, p. 76.

LETTER V.

The Fiord. Port and Arsenal of Horton. Fredericksveern. Kongsborg. Hoinnas. Iron and Silver Mines. Falls of Labrofoss. River Langen. Gousta Mountains. Silver Mines and Manufactories. Drammen. Krock Leven Mountains. Honenfosen. Christiania, p. 95.

LETTER VI.

Magnor. Kongswinger. Strand. Hogboda. Carlstad. Lakes Wenern and Wettern. Hastrop. Christinehamn. Canal. Rodesund. Halna. Friasbrick. Orebro. Koping. Kalback. Stromsholm. Westeras. Nyquarn. Enkoping. Lake Malaren. Tibble. Barkarby. Stockholm, p. 116.

LETTER VII.

Stockholm, Booksellers, Public and Private Libraries. Shops, Streets, and Squares. Shoe Market. Butchers. Palace, Opera House. Change of Dynasty. Interview with Bernadotte. Conflagrations. House of Nobles. Statues, Obelisks, Churches, Mausoleum. Artillery Dépôt. Naval and Military Academies, Barracks, Arsenal. Flotilla, Russian Trophies, Swedish Navy. Foundling Hospital. Museum. Antiquities. The Mint. Dalecarlians. Environs of Stockholm, p. 138.

LETTER VIII.

Upsala. Cathedral. Castle. Gamla, or Old Upsala. Library. Manuscripts. Cabinet. The Virgin's Slipper. Judas's Money. Botanic Garden. Linnæus. Swedish Sculptors. Menagerie. Observatory. Entomologist. Classification of Insects, by the Iliad. Tombs. Gustavus Vasa. St. Eric. Sacred Image of Thor. Murder of Count Sture. Osterby. Yfre. Soderforse. Elfscarlby. Gefle. Gestricia. Fahlun. Dalecarlia. Great Copper Mine. Afvestad. Stockholm. Swedish Constitution. The Four Orders. Elective Franchise. Law of Libel. Orders of Knighthood. Swedish Honesty and Morals, p. 180.

LETTER IX.

Journey from Stockholm to St. Petersburg. Gulf of Bothnia. Archipelago. Islands of Aland. Night, Storm, and Steam Vessel. Iron Cables. Finland. Abo. Cathedral. University. Library. Observatory. Grand Dinner Party. English, Swedish, and Russian Frigates. Russian Government of Finland. Salo. Lambola. Mjolbolstad. Helsingfors. Government Buildings. Quay. Trade. Army of Finland. Constitution of Finland. Taxes. Military Etiquette. Running the Gauntlet. Russian Bath, *en militaire*. Sweaborg. Traitors and Treason. Borgo. Lovisa. Fredrickshamn. Peterlax. Granite Quarries. Kiskila. Wiborg. Stromstadt. Krasnoje. Pampala. Rajajoki. Dranischnikoff. Beloostroff. Suburbs of St. Petersburg. Entrance of St. Petersburg, p. 247.

LETTER X.

Foundation of St. Petersburg. Character of Peter the Great. Motives for building the City. Climate of Petersburg. Woods and Marshes. Russian Prejudices in favour of Moscow. Topography of Petersburg. Course of the Neva. Monastery of St. Alexander. Nevsky. Voskrenskoi Monastery. Gulf of Cronstadt. The Neva. Granite Quays. English Merchants and the Emperor Paul. Perspectives. Nevsky Perspective. Moika, Katarina, and Fonlanka Canals. Bridges. Private Houses. Imperial Winter Palace. Hermitage. Marble Palace. Crescent. College of Foreign Affairs. Senate. Loan Bank. Admiralty. Russian Foot-Pavement. St. Isaac's Church. Summer Gardens. Emperor Paul's Vision of St. Michael. Vasilly-ostrof. Exchange. Academy of Sciences. Custom-House. Magazines. Citadel. Church of St. Paul and St. Peter. Russian Costumes. Droskies. Ivoschtschiks. Russian Saints. Gostennoi-dvor. Bazaar. Louse Market. Statue of Peter the Great. Huge Block of Granite, p. 286.

LETTER XI.

Russian Winter. Lateness of the Season. Extreme Variableness of the Climate, and destructive Effects of its Vicissitudes. Myriads of Crows. Excursion to Cronstadt. Steam-boat. Cannon. Drilling Sailors. Honest Admiral and Court Favour. Russian Ships of War. Oranienbaum. Prince Mentchikof. The Ha! or Solitude of Catharine II. Montagnes Russes. Peterhof. Mon Plaisir. English Garden. Cottage Orné. Monastery of St. Sergious. Russian Country Seats. Alexandrofski. Royal Manufactory. Excellent Management of the Juvenile Manufacturers. Active Benevolence of the Dowager Empress. Palace of Tzarskoe-selo. Imperial Omnipotence. Road-marking and Road-making. Lodge of Tchesme. Portrait Painting. Sir Joshua Reynolds. Pavlofsk. The Emperor Paul. Palace of Pella. Schlusselburg. Dungeons. Deposition and Murder of the Emperor Paul. Kolpenny. Russian Artisans, their Power of Imitation. Kammennoi-ostrof. Ylagin. Tauridan Palace. Grand Fête of Prince Potemkin. Fountains of Champagne, and Silver Pumps. Museum of the Academy of Sciences. Mineralogical, Zoological, and Entomological Branches. Amphibious Animals. Relics and Antiquities. Effigy of Peter the Great. Skeletons of the Mameluke and the Dwarf. L'Academie des Beaux Arts. Admiralty. Hydrographical Office. Model Room. Cabinet of Natural History. Shipbuilding. Oak and Larch. Official Peculation. Senate. Marine

Cadet Corps. Russian Naval Establishment. Imperial Library. The Mint. Interior of the Winter Palace, Hermitage, and Arsenal. Interview with the Grand Duke Nicholas. Engineer Establishment. Palace of St. Michael. Assassination of the Emperor Paul. Setting in of the Frost. Preparations of Winter Clothing. A Russian Bath. Mode of Heating Rooms. A Table d'Hôte. French and Russian Theatres. English Club. Commercial Club. Meteorological Observations. Freezing of the Ladoga and Neva, p. 318.

LETTER XII.

Invitation to Court. Imperial Levée. The Royal Family. Imperial Ball and Superb Supper. General Scramble for the Remnants. Profusion of Diamonds. Royal Family of Georgia. Fees to Court Servants. English Chapel and Chaplain. Celebration of Christmas Day. Grand Illuminations. Masquerades. New Year's Day. Superb Fête interrupted by a sudden Death. Lying in State and Funeral. Death of a Royal Infant. Convent of Alexander Nevsky. Cathedral of the Holy Virgin of Casan. Costume and Discipline of the Russian Clergy. History of the Russian Church. Regulation of the Russian Monasteries and Nunneries. Ecclesiastical Establishment and Polity. Church Service. Spiritual Schools. The four Fasts. Russian Toleration. Dissenters from the Established Church. Sanctification of the Waters. The Frozen Market. The Game Market. Sledge Travelling to Cronstadt. Winter Landscape. Catharinehof. The Fine Arts and Literature. The Observatory. The Gottorp Globe. *Le Couvent des Demoiselles Nobles. Les Tableaux Vivans.* Violation of Private Letters at the Post Office. Departure for Revel, p. 426.

LETTER XIII.

Journey to Revel. View of Revel, and Description of the Town. Breakwater, or Artificial Harbour. Sudden Manumission of the Serfs. Its bad Effects. Hospitality of the Governor. Domestic Habits and Manners. Ball and Supper. Female Beauty. Madame Mara. The Senate House. Churches and Cathedral. Corpse preserved in a Glass Case. Naval and Military Hospitals. Two Parhelions, or mock Suns. Extreme Severity of the Weather. Persons frozen to Death. Terrific Snow Storm. Badness of the Roads. Imposition of Innkeepers. Return to St. Petersburg. Arrival of the Emperor. Institute of St. Catharine. Its Economy, Internal Arrangements, and Admirable Condition, Nature of the Studies, and Method of Instruction, La Salle de Physique, Embroidery Room, Manufacturing of Furniture. The

Slobade of Ockta. Imperial Gunpowder Manufactory. The Foundling Hospital. System of the Establishment. The Galley Haven. Plate Glass and Porcelain Manufactories. Russian Method of Manufacturing Glass. Sir Thomas Lawrence's Portrait of the Emperor. Mr. Dawe, the English Artist. The Palace of the Military Staff. Topographical Office. Copy of a Private Letter from Joseph Buonaparte to the Emperor Napoleon. Interview with the Emperor Alexander. Rapid Elevation of a Court Favourite. A Military Colony. School of Artillery. Hospitals of the Imperial Guards. Popularity of the Grand Duke Michael General Military Hospital. Sir James Wily. English Surgeons and Physicians. Extraordinary Surgical Operation. Improved Health of the Navy. Singular Case of Infanticide. Marriage Ceremony and Bridal Fête. Aggrandizement of Russia. Strength of the Russian Armies. Mode of Recruiting. Diminution of the Forces. The Imperial Guard, Mock Fights, Charge of Cavalry. La Chevalier Garde. La Garde à Cheval. Severity of Discipline. Mutiny of the Guard. Banishment to Siberia. Russian Administration. Commercial Impositions. Finances. Circulating Medium. Table of Exports and Imports. Condition of the Russian Labourers. Articles of Food. Russian Book Trade. Commodore Golownin and the Japanese. Mr. Holman the Blind Traveller, and his Deaf Companion. Imperial Cabinet of Presents. The Lombard, or Pawning Establishment. The Loan Bank. Ordinary Appearance of the Royal Family in the Streets. The Grand Dukes Michael and Constantine. Anecdote of the Grand Duke Constantine, his Divorce, and Exclusion from the Throne. Dwarfs, p. 475.

PREFACE.

As some reasons will probably be expected why I present myself to public notice, I shall state the motives which induced me to undertake the tour described in the following letters.

Entering the naval service at a very early age, I remained constantly employed till 1818, when the Admiralty was pleased to reward my services by advancing me to the rank of Post-captain, a step which had ever been the object of my most ardent ambition and exertions, and which at once rendered me independent, and allowed me leisure, for the first time, to take that on shore which I had been doing nearly all my life on the ocean, *i. e.* "a cruize." But so completely had nautical pursuits taken possession of my mind, that I determined to make them my primary

object, by visiting all the principal sea-ports of Europe where I should be likely to gain any professional knowledge, or have an opportunity of meeting in peace many officers whom I had only known in war, and of visiting the interior of ports which, during tedious blockades, had excited so much interest in my breast. All these objects I accomplished in the most satisfactory manner. I inspected, during the years 1820 and 1821, the coasts of France and Holland from Bourdeaux to the Texel, and in 1822, 1823, and 1824, the whole of the remainder of the coasts of Europe, with the exception of those of Spain, Portugal, and of part of Italy, which I had had frequent opportunities of doing when in command, and was well aware, by experience, that they afforded no objects of interest to the naval officer.

I feel it a pleasing duty to acknowledge, that during these tours some of the most agreeable meetings and courtesies have been with those officers whom I had formerly met in hostile array.

Although professional gratification was my chief motive for travelling, I did not disregard the opportunity which it afforded me of

seeing the interior of different countries, their inhabitants, and peculiar customs and manners.

I kept a regular journal of every thing novel which came under my observation, and what I witnessed I am now induced to offer to the public.

In this tour nothing will be found but the results of actual experience. I had neither time nor the means to prosecute scientific researches; they, in fact, formed no part of my object. To scientific readers, therefore, I do not address myself; and those in search of general knowledge and information, may say that they have them much better and more copiously from the travellers who have preceded me.

To this I can only plead, that pursuing the path previously trod by the learned and elegant Dr. Clarke, the accurate de Boisgelin, by Mr. James, Mr. Hobhouse, Mrs. Guthrie, *&c.*, and lastly by the justly celebrated Pallas, little was left for me to glean: yet no field is so well cleared, that by diligence and attention a sheaf may not be collected—such as the sheaf is, I now lay it as an offering before the public, trusting in a great de-

gree to its well-known generosity, not to treat too harshly the labourer who unavoidably came late to the harvest.

If the learned authors before alluded to have now and then dropped a blade for the benefit of an after comer, they have my best thanks (for I have not failed to gather it), as they have also for the light they afforded me during my wanderings, as well as for any thing I may have borrowed from them, though I am not conscious of having done so to any extent, except in objects of deep and learned research for which I candidly own myself perfectly unqualified. I have, in this respect, implicitly followed the justly celebrated Dr. Clarke, than whom a more beautiful and correct writer is not to be found, and I feel happy to bear testimony to the extraordinary accuracy with which he has described the countries through which I passed, leaving nothing to be desired, except that he had been a little more liberal towards the Russian character. From the work of Pallas I have derived considerable information, and by the assistance of Pinkerton's able translation of the theological writings of the late Archbishop Platon, I have been able, in

some measure, to draw aside the veil which has so long obscured the real doctrines of the Russ-Greek-church, particularly with respect to the adoration of saints.

Many years have elapsed since most of the above tourists published, and we know how greatly the features of a country, and the character of a people, may alter in the course of a quarter of a century.

To make these alterations known, and to supply any ordinary omissions of my more able and learned predecessors, are, I candidly avow, my reasons for venturing before the public in a character so foreign to my profession.

That many professional data are not stated, must be attributed to delicacy, because the extraordinary kindness by which I was enabled to acquire such information, was intended solely for my individual gratification, and therefore a public statement of the result would be a sort of breach of confidence. I feel it a particular duty to state, that all opinions passed by me upon particular circumstances in different countries, are the result of reflection at the moment, and are certainly intended to be free from asperity, for the treatment I

uniformly experienced, made me anxious to point out defects, or what I considered defects, solely in order to their being remedied for the general good of the state.

Even in the brief space since the termination of my tour, many of those to whom I was much indebted for personal kindness, have been withdrawn by the hand of Providence from this sublunary scene. I more particularly allude to the late Emperor Alexander and his amiable consort, personages more truly great and good, I firmly believe never to have existed; and to their great condescension towards myself and brother, I feel too much indebted not to be induced here to pay a sincere tribute of respect to their memory. I should be guilty of ingratitude did I not acknowledge, that without the personal kindness of the present Emperor Nicholas, then grand duke, we should, according to the established etiquette of the imperial court, have been cut off from all the court *fêtes*, and even from any public notice, till the emperor's return from Verona, which was only a few days before our departure from St. Petersburg.

Therefore, to the Emperor Nicholas I feel

that we owe immense obligation, and I trust I may be allowed, without being open to the charge of flattery, to say, that he appears to me to possess every requisite quality to form a great prince. I may be permitted also to express a sincere hope, that he may long continue to reign happily over the great nation which he has been so unexpectedly called to govern, and that his enlightened views may prove of general benefit to the community.

During my tour I paid great attention to the condition and state of foreign seamen. My reason for taking a review of the systems adopted by the nations of Europe for manning their fleets, is, to prove that, in no case, is it accomplished without a certain degree of restraint on personal liberty, operating during the whole life of the seaman. This has more injurious effects upon his ardour and enterprise than that which England inflicts only during a war, when the necessities of the state absolutely require it. However, in what I have said, I disclaim all intention of canvassing the subject to the extent of which it is so capable, but rather wish to warn the public of the probably injurious consequences

which would result from changes hasty and ill digested, but which might appear, to some well-disposed persons, to be improvements of the condition of one of the finest characters on the face of the globe—a true British seaman.

TRAVELS

IN

NORWAY, SWEDEN, FINLAND,

&c. &c. &c.

LETTER I.

Calais—Dunkerque—Furnes—Nieuport—Ostend—Ypres—Minin—Lys—Scheldt—Tournay—Fontenoy—Ghent—Antwerp—Fort Lillo—Brussels—Soignies—Mons—Renaix—Charleroi—Sambre—Fleures—Ligny—Namur—Dinant—Meuse—Port St. Nicolas—Huy—Liège—Aix la Chapelle—Cologne—Dusseldorf—Munster—Dorsten—Luxemburg—Leyden—Minden—St. Lambert—Bielefield—Herford—Lesse—Hanover—Harburg—Hamburg—Elbe—Alster—Altona.

Hamburg, 19th June, 1822.

You are aware that I left England, on the 19th ultimo, in company with my eldest brother, in order to visit the Belgian frontier, and, under an arrangement, to meet my youngest brother in this city, on the 12th instant: and, according to your desire, I will make you acquainted with my proceedings up to this period.

The passage from Dover to Calais, in the Sovereign steam-boat, was performed in two hours and three quarters. After dining at Dessein's, and visiting Sterne's room, which is distinguished by his name on the door, we entered our carriage, and,

at 10 P. M. found ourselves at the outer gate of Dunkerque which, after considerable noise on the part of our postilion, was opened for our admittance. It appears to be a rule in France, to admit travellers, coming post, at any hour of the night, into all fortified places, but not to let any out before the usual hour of opening the gates to the public.

The town is too well known to need any description from me; suffice it to say, that the back-water sluice, prepared by order of Buonaparte for keeping the harbour clear, has failed in its object, principally from the distance at which it is placed from where its greatest power is wanted, and from the channel being so wide as to cause the rush of water to lose its force long before arriving at the desired point. The basin of the arsenal was in a very bad state, as well as the gun-boats, having an accumulation of at least eight feet of mud round them.

At Furnes our baggage underwent a slight examination, but which was conducted with civility.

Nieuport is a strong fortification, mounting one hundred and fifty guns; the country around can be inundated by means of sluices.

Ostend is magnificently fortified, but the inhabitants experience great inconvenience from the want of fresh water, the requisite supplies of which, except what is obtained from rain, being brought from Bruges, and preserved in reservoirs.

To this cause may be attributed the offensive smells so prevalent at Ostend throughout all seasons.

The canal to Bruges is very fine, and has a large basin with a sluice-gate thirty-nine feet wide; the harbour is dry at low water, but at high water it has eighteen feet of depth.

The lower class of females are generally very ugly; they wear large wooden shoes without stockings, and have ponderous ear-rings suspended from each ear.

On the 22nd, we slept at Ypres, a strongly-fortified town. The Hôtel de Ville is an extraordinary, large, Gothic building, having a façade of three hundred and sixty feet. Diaper was first manufactured here, and the name of which is a corruption of Ypres.

Menin is the most advanced of the Belgian fortified places; the French territory touches the very glacis, and the river Lys passes through the town, and afterwards falls into the Scheldt.

Tournay is an open town, with a strong citadel commanding it. The carpets usually known under the name of Brussels, are made here. From the citadel there is a fine view of the plain of Fontenoy, where the celebrated battle was fought in 841, which secured the crown of France to Charles the Bald, but cost that country more than one hundred thousand of her bravest sons. On this plain also was fought, in 1745, the battle which is generally known under its name, and which, from the able

dispositions made by the Duke of Cumberland, and the gallantry shown by part of his troops, ought to have led to a more fortunate result. Indeed it is said that, at one moment, had it not been for the determination of Marshal Saxe, Louis XV. would have retired, and allowed the duke to reap all the benefit his bold attack had deserved.

The Belgians are strict Roman Catholics, and the image of our Saviour is frequently seen on the road, suspended from a tree; sometimes as large as life, and sometimes in a small box, like a bird in a cage.

Ghent is a very fine city, built upon twenty-six islands; it contains nearly three hundred bridges, and has two considerable canals. Charles V. was born here, and he used to say of Paris, "that he could put it into his glove;" alluding to the word "Gand," the French name of Ghent, and to its standing upon more ground than Paris. The magistrates having fallen under his displeasure, he obliged them to wear halters round their necks, which practice continues to the present day; but the halter has become ornamental, being worn in the shape of true lovers' knots.

I was particularly struck with the pulpit in the cathedral; it is richly inlaid with medallions of white marble, and supported by a wooden carving of an aged man, to whom an angel, treading the globe beneath his feet, opens the book of life, exhibiting the passage in St. Paul's Epistle to the Ephesians, "Awake thou that sleepest, and arise

from the dead, and Christ shall give thee light." The Paschal Lamb, by Van Eyck, 1415, has the colours as vivid as if painted yesterday.

The botanical garden is small, but stands high in public estimation, and it contains some good statues of celebrated naturalists.

The Pays de Waes, between Ghent and Antwerp, is perhaps the richest and most highly cultivated country in Europe. The Scheldt is about six hundred yards across at Antwerp, where we arrived on the 25th. This city may be said to be grand in every respect; the cathedral church of Nôtre Dame may be considered one of the most beautiful specimens of Gothic architecture ever produced. The houses in general, as well as the streets, are on a large scale. La Place-de-mer, is perhaps the largest open space in any city of Europe, and the basin and docks would do honour to a great maritime nation. However, at this moment, commerce is at a very low ebb, as I could perceive only five foreign vessels—four English, and one Swedish. It is said that the former illiberal policy of the Dutch towards this city, is about to be revived, in order to favour the cities of Amsterdam and Rotterdam.

We did not fail to visit the tomb of Rubens and his family, which is ornamented with inscriptions, and a painting, by his own hand, of himself, his wives, his children, and his parents: he was buried in the church of St. Jacques, in the year 1640.

We reached, by a most execrable road, the, for England, too far-famed, Fort Lillo. The Scheldt is here about five hundred yards across, or rather wider than the Thames at Waterloo bridge, and there is another fort on the opposite side, both of which, since 1809, have been considerably strengthened, but, even in their present state, a Wellington or a Nelson would think little of them, when a fine fleet of enemies' vessels was in the basin at Antwerp. But although, at that time, the Nelsonian ardour was fully developed, the Wellingtonian was only in the bud. We were accompanied by a very fine young Dutch engineer, nephew of the late gallant and respected De Winter, who seemed to think, that the people who conquered his uncle on his own coast, and upon a lee shore, ought not to have merely looked at Fort Lillo.

The road from Antwerp to Brussels is flat but interesting. It being the feast of Pentecost, we entered Brussels by the Allée Verte, under peculiarly favourable circumstances.

The evening was fine, and nearly the whole population appeared to be assembled for the purpose of enjoyment, either as equestrians, pedestrians, or idlers on chairs, under the shade of the magnificent trees which form this alley for nearly the extent of a mile.

It having been decided never again to attempt the defence of this city, the ramparts are now levelling, and it is proposed to form an exterior

boulevard. Why Brussels possesses so many attractions for English families, as to be crowded with them, I cannot tell: living and house rent are as dear as in England, and as for amusements it possesses but few.

The city must ever excite an interest, as the spot where Charles V., thwarted in his vast plans of ambition, resigned the power he could no longer wield with satisfaction or pleasure, and retired from the world into seclusion and solitude. His example had probably an effect upon Christiana of Sweden, as she followed it in this city, in the year 1754. It was here, at least, that she performed the last act, by abjuring her religion.

We left Brussels with sentiments of respect for the inhabitants who had shewn such charitable feelings towards our wounded countrymen after the battle of Waterloo. In passing Soignies, it happened to be the fête of their patron saint, and the villagers were drawn out *en militaire*, with the most grotesque costumes imaginable, and to be equalled by nothing but the armament, which consisted of all sorts of fire arms of ancient date (not one modern one could I observe), which they were continually discharging, to the no small danger of themselves, and the innocent passing stranger: fortunately, by a timely invocation to the saint, we escaped, and arrived safely at Mons. It may be remarked, in proof of the highly cultivated state of Belgium, that this day, for the first time,

we observed a piece of waste or common land, of about six or eight acres: upon this sheep were grazing. The country was less flat; indeed in some parts (as about Renaix,) there was sufficient of hill and dale to approach the picturesque.

At Charleroi we dined at a miserable auberge, where most of the sovereigns of Europe had done the same, and we suffered in our high bill and bad fare for the company that had been there before us.

Charleroi is remarkable as the place by which Buonaparte entered Belgium before, and quitted it after the battle of Waterloo; indeed had the bridge across the Sambre been destroyed, it is probable the citadel would have been able to prevent his further retreat, for the troops were so disorganized that they never stopped till they had crossed it, many being without arms. Buonaparte had his horse fed, but did not sleep here, as has been erroneously stated; and Jerome was in such a fright, that, although nearly famished, he would not alight, but snatched some refreshment in his carriage, and upon a slight alarm drove off.

We passed the plains of Fleures and the village of Ligny, famed for the battle, previously to which Dumourier is said to have availed himself of a balloon to reconnoitre the enemies' position; and celebrated also for that in which the veteran Blucher was dismounted in his retreat, and rode over by the pursuing cavalry, but being unobserved, his life

was preserved, to wreak ample vengeance on the heads of the despoilers of his country, and insulters of his late virtuous queen.

This is a great coal district, and the traveller is covered with coal dust. A number of forges for making nails are in great activity. We passed some of the largest farm houses, and the best stocked farm yards, that I have ever met with in any country. Up to this place, the country has been cultivated like a garden—not a spot lost, and the whole in beautiful order: the means they resort to for procuring the best manure, we were often made too sensible of, by our olfactory nerves.

We arrived at Namur on the 30th. The citadel stands on a hill, and if properly defended must be altogether impregnable. The view from it is magnificent. The face of the country now changes into bold rocks, rivers, and wood. A curious circumstance has just occurred on the Dinant road: part of a hill has gradually moved, so as completely to occupy the road, and they are now busily employed making a new one by a considerable circuit. The neighbourhood abounds in iron ore, and many furnaces are employed in smelting it. Hammers of great power are worked by water. The cutlery is held in estimation.

Dinant stands like another Gibraltar, commanding the Meuse and surrounding country. I was much struck with a pretty girl, being the first I have seen since leaving England. The Belgian

females are by far the most ordinary I have met with: those of Holland have greatly the advantage of them in point of good looks.

After viewing the Porte St. Nicolas, and thinking of My Uncle Toby, we crossed the Meuse by a bridge, and at once got into a different kind of country, and upon a good road.

After a picturesque drive, we arrived at Huy, the castle of which is a perfect *chef d'œuvre*, being unassailable, and completely commanding the bridge and river. A well, three hundred feet deep, has been completed after incredible labour and perseverance.

Upon leaving Huy, we crossed to the left bank of the Meuse, and immediately got into the grape country, the side of the hill being covered with vines, tastefully arranged, with hops growing below: the latter are to be found throughout the Netherlands. Some of the rocks are stupendous. Before entering Liège, we constantly passed children on the road, nearly in a state of nudity. The entrance into the city is pleasing; it is open, but all the approaches are commanded by strong works. Liège and its environs are very flourishing; as the neighbourhood abounds in coal, and in running streams to work the machinery.

My brother here left me, and returned to England with his carriage in which we had travelled, and I proceeded, *par diligence*, (woful difference) to Aix-la-Chapelle. Before proceeding, let us take

a retrospect of the Netherlands, the kingdom of which, according to the treaty of Vienna, comprises Holland and its dependencies, Belgium and Flanders, with a population of about five millions five hundred thousand souls. "Every subject of the king, without any distinction created by his religious opinions, enjoys equal rights, both civil and political; and is equally eligible to all employments and honours whatsoever. The public exercise of every religion is permitted, if it does not disturb the general tranquillity." This is a wise law, and let us hope it will have the desired effect of uniting, for the protection of their common rights, the two most opposite sects of Protestants and Catholics. The Hollanders are nearly to a man of the former faith, and the Belgians of the latter.

The crown is declared hereditary in his royal highness William Frederick, Prince of Orange, and his legitimate descendants, and, in defect of male issue, it is to descend in the female line. The States General is composed of two chambers, and represents the nation. The one, which is denominated the First or Upper Chamber, is composed of not less than forty or more than sixty members, named by the king for life. The king nominates their president, and each member receives three thousand florins annually to defray his travelling expenses.

The other chamber is composed of one hundred and ten members, elected by the states of the

provinces. Persons who live in the province which has the appointment, and who are not less than thirty years of age, are eligible to this chamber. They are elected for three years, and one-third of the whole number annually retire, but are immediately qualified, or capable to be re-elected. Their president is named by the king for one session only. These members receive annually two thousand five hundred florins, for the expenses of removing to attend the king, either at the Hague or Brussels, as, according to treaty, the sessions are to be held alternately in a town of Holland, and in a town of Belgium.

The judges in the high court of judicature, in the provincial civil courts, and in the criminal courts, have their appointments for life. The person of the king is inviolable; the ministers are alone responsible for mal-administration. All arbitrary arrests are forbidden. The house of every person is declared to be inviolable; the liberty of the press is acknowledged, but an author is liable to an action if he injures an individual, or traduces the government of any foreign state. In criminal cases, trial by jury formerly existed, but it is now abolished; the bench of judges decide the case, after hearing the pleadings and the evidence. Marriage in Belgium, as in France and America, is simply a civil contract; the wedding ring is worn on the third finger of the right hand.

The lands of the Netherlands lie in such exten-

sive level plains, and are so highly cultivated, that in favourable seasons they yield crops far beyond the consumption of the inhabitants. The best flax is also produced in this country: an ounce of the finest thread for making Brussels lace, is said to be worth two hundred francs, or nearly twice its weight in gold; the best grows near Courtray.

The Belgians pretend to hold the Dutch in great contempt, and a rooted antipathy has long subsisted between the two countries, to which is now added a jealousy, which views with a jaundiced eye every mark of distinction bestowed by the king, and calls for, on the part of his majesty, an exercise of the greatest discretion and firmness. Up to this moment the Belgians have certainly been great gainers by the union, because they have had the exclusive benefit of the money which has been expended upon the line of fortresses now erecting by treaty, as a barrier against any future encroachment on the part of France; and which, according to papers just laid before the House of Commons, amounts to the sum of six millions and a half sterling. The expenses of these fortifications have been defrayed in the following proportions: by France, two and a half, by England, two (out of the French indemnity), and the remainder, by the kingdom of the Netherlands.

I must confess I am so much of a skeptic on the subject of Roman Catholic liberality and toleration, that when the sweets of the union shall have

ceased, and taxes may be called for to support these fortresses, I shall not be surprised at an open rupture, and at an attempt at separation by the Belgians, in order to throw themselves into the arms of France, a country of their own religion. For the sake of humanity and the peace of Europe, I shall be most happy to find that the illiberality of this apprehension lies entirely on my side, and that the Belgians participate in my tolerant principles, and then I am sure all will go on well; for I hold it to be the indisputable and inalienable right of every one to enjoy freely the religion of his forefathers, till he shall himself voluntarily, upon conviction of its errors, renounce it.

Soon after leaving Liège we came to the Belgian and Prussian frontiers, a short space dividing the two barriers, both of which we passed without difficulty or incivility of search, the boxes being merely opened. Upon asking the Belgian officer, if the gate, which was chequered black and white, was the Prussian barrier, "Yes," he replied, with an evident air of pride, "as far as that gate you are free, but no further;" alluding to the Prussians being without a constitution, although it is said the king solemnly promised them one when they so nobly and patriotically seconded his efforts for the expulsion of the French, after having for years groaned under their tyranny. Indeed so long had they suffered from the French, that the feelings of men were nearly extinct, they being little better

than vassals of the occupiers of their country. The road was hilly, and so bad that it took us more than eight hours to perform the twenty-seven miles between Liège and Aix-la-Chapelle, where we arrived after encountering a host of beggars. In the evening I visited La Salle de Banque, or licensed gambling-house. The great room is one of the most elegant in structure I have seen; every description of gambling is carried on under the protection of government, and I could not help admiring an ordinance to the following purport:—

"The city having, from time immemorial, derived great benefit from a gambling-house *(maison de jeu)*, we, in our parental goodness, permit it to be opened from May till August, the months that foreigners generally resort to the city for the benefit of the waters; but this indulgence is not to have any bad effect upon the morals of the citizens, and the police are to turn out anybody whom they suspect not to be able to afford to lose money."

FREDERICK.

The cathedral is a fine building, commenced by Charlemagne, and they shew the habit which he wore, but these antiquities are insignificant, compared to the more sacred ones which are strictly locked up, and only opened for public inspection once in seven years: *viz.*, "the swaddling clothes of our Saviour, a chemise of the Virgin's, and a band of St. John's." In the square there is a good

statue of Charlemagne, and his black eagles. The inhabitants appear discontented and unhappy under the *paternal* government of Prussia. There were few strangers congregated at Aix-la-Chapelle ; and I hastened through Juliers, over an uninteresting country, to Cologne, where I got lodgings at the St. Esprit, an old inn, overlooking the magnificent Rhine.

The city is dull and has a wretched appearance; the inhabitants are victims of superstition and bigotry. The cathedral, a stupendous edifice, was begun in the year 1248, and continued with religious zeal, for more than three centuries ; but the funds failing, it was left in an unfinished state, and the crane or sheers, which they had made use of to raise the heavy stones, were left standing on the top. Some years ago, the magistrates finding them decayed, and never likely to come into use, had them taken down, and a public calamity soon after happening, the populace could not be persuaded but that it arose from the absence of the sheers, which themselves and ancestors had been accustomed to behold. A revolt was consequently near taking place, to prevent which, the magistrates were obliged to have a pair of light materials erected, which now appear the first thing on coming within sight of the city, and stand a monument to warn you of the folly of its inhabitants. After this you will not be surprised to hear, that they firmly believe they possess the bones of the three

magi or kings. They are said to be contained in a mausoleum, more richly ornamented, if the gems be real, than it is possible to imagine; and if you visit the city, I would advise you by no means to miss the sight, although it will cost you six francs, as in consequence of some depredation committed on this sanctuary, it is not shown except by order.

Agrippina, the mother of Nero, and the immortal Rubens were born here, the latter in 1577. The Church of St. Peter, in which he was baptized, possesses his celebrated picture of the crucifixion of that apostle at Rome, with his head downwards, a position the apostle is said to have requested, from his being unworthy to suffer in the same attitude in which his divine master had been crucified. An artist has made a copy of this painting, which now, in their economy, they show to the public on week days; only gratifying the faithful with a sight of the original on the Sabbath: however, for half a franc a heretic may see it at any time. The Rhine, which at Cologne is about a quarter of a mile broad, is passed by a very large and well-constructed *pont-volant*, or flying bridge, formed of a broad platform, resting upon two large barges firmly attached to each other. The facility and precision with which the bridge is transported from side to side, by means of the current and an anchor placed at a considerable distance up the river, the iron chain cable of which is supported

at intermediate distances by small boats, are really astonishing. Its scale is immense, and it is supposed that one thousand persons might be transported by it at a time. Carriages are driven on board with the greatest facility.

The flying bridge soon took me across the Rhine; the morning was beautiful, and the river appeared very animated with numerous trading barks, while the city seemed venerably melancholy, as if conscious of its former consequence, and ashamed of its present degradation. Passing a flat and uninteresting country, but relieved sometimes by a glance at the majestic Rhine, five hours brought me to Dusseldorf, a perfect contrast to Cologne. I never in so short a space saw so great a transition; wide, clean streets; good, modern houses, and an apparently happy population; with a kind and benevolent prince for their governor, a worthy successor of the excellent Elector Joseph William, who effected so much good in 1709. The Rhine washes one side of the town, and the other three are surrounded by pleasant walks and gardens. There is a remarkable peculiarity of dress amongst the inhabitants; the men all wear a peculiarly small cap, coming down on the forehead à la Mary, Queen of Scots, and not affording the slightest protection from the sun. The women are still more ridiculous, wearing a small chip hat, not bigger than a Grecian scull cap, and of course showing all their hair, which is disagreeably oily,

but not, I fear, from the effects of Rowland's Macassar, or any thing half so fragrant.

The landwhyr were out for the purpose of being drilled. The officers were very gentlemanly, and their dress was particularly *en militaire*. They performed the part of drill serjeants, and generally had a musket themselves, in order to add example to precept. I fear the so long and so justly celebrated gallery of Dusseldorf, which used to attract men of taste from all parts of Europe, has entirely disappeared; and, as a bitter satire upon their fallen fortune in that respect, they are obliged to endure the sight of a representation of the crucifixion in wood, placed outside one of the churches, where our Saviour and the malefactors are made to appear in full dressed wigs.

The road to Munster is vile; with seven horses we could hardly proceed, and were twice upset. At Dorsten, where we supped, they informed us that the King of England had done the same, and that the road appeared to have annoyed him very much; indeed, his majesty must sensibly have felt the difference between such a road, and whisking down to Brighton from London in three hours and a half, which he is said to have done more than once.

While at supper a Prussian student arrived in charge of a *gendarme*, who was conducting him from Luxemburg to Berlin, upon suspicion of Carbonnariism, which probably might have arisen from his dress, for it was most eccentric. Upon hearing he was to be guarded *à la vue*, the whole

way, I observed to a gentleman, that it must be extremely unpleasant to the prisoner; he shrugged up his shoulders, and said that they had been familiarized to it during the time of the French.

The town of Munster is of itself bad enough, but the ramparts having been turned into walks, have a good effect, and the females are pretty and genteel. During the four hours I remained, I saw more good-looking women, than during the whole of the preceding journey.

The iron cages in which John of Leyden and his two accomplices suffered, are still suspended from the tower of the church of St. Lambert.

The room in which the celebrated treaty of 1648 was signed, remains in the same state as when the congress sat, with the addition of good portraits of the sovereigns and the deputies from the United Provinces: there is also some armour of an immense size.

The *diligence* was now changed for a light post waggon, but the road continued so bad, that we had seven horses nearly the whole way to Minden. Near Bielefield we were, for the first time since leaving England, obliged to use the drag.

This is a flourishing town, having a great trade in linen, its bleaching being supposed to equal that of Haarlem. Two leagues beyond Herford, a protestant town, there is a salt spring with extensive works for procuring the salt both by evaporation and filtering, particularly by the latter. In this operation an immense fabric is reared, composed of

small branches of trees and brushwood, over which the water is thrown by a pump, and falling, leaves incrustations of salt upon the branches.

Passing through what is called La Cluse, or Porte de Westphalie, formed by Les Montagnes de Jacques and de Marguerite Cluse, we arrived at midnight at Minden, which the next morning I found ancient, ill built and fortified. A sentry soon turned me off the ramparts, from whence the view of the Weser and the mountains of Westphalia is very picturesque. The women are clumsily and heavily clad; they wear a jacket and a very heavy, red petticoat, plaited like cossack trowsers, which meets it just above the hips. The men, on the contrary, look light and airy, wearing thin Holland coats, lined with red, with small-clothes and cotton stockings fantastically worked. We reached Lesse, the first place in Hanover, and I was surprised to find on every thing appertaining to government, the mark G. R. IV. over the English arms; for although our king is the fourth of the name of George in England, I thought he had been the first *King* of Hanover, and from what I have seen, however it may be the interest of the Hanoverians to assimilate themselves as much as possible to the English, I am certain they do not reflect any credit upon us. During the night I was feelingly alive to the woful difference of travelling under Post Office protection in the two countries, for the vehicle was neither wind nor water tight; and

instead of turnpike roads, there was a trackless waste, so that, on a dark night, I am sure I do not know how they can possibly find their way.

We arrived at Hanover about six in the morning. The town is neat and clean, and the road to Mont Brillant and Herrenhausen (royal palaces), is pleasant and good, every other being bad and sandy. The Duke of Cambridge inhabits the former palace, and the king lived in the latter during his late visit.

The Hanoverians are just now very indignant at a change of cockade, which was ordered under, I believe, an idea of doing them an honour, but which has wounded their pride most amazingly. Their national cockade is black, and it was only on the accession of the Hanoverian family to the throne of England, that the black cockade was adopted by us, our colour having previously been sky-blue; but when parties ran high, the whigs, to show their attachment to the protestant succession, generally wore the cockade of the Hanoverian family, and in time, it was uniformly adopted and considered as national; of course the Hanoverians had also continued it, and it was worn by everybody on the king's arrival. Whether the English ministers about him were ignorant of its origin I do not know, but they advised his Majesty to grant to his Hanoverian subjects a cockade, variegated of black, yellow, black and white, with an order to wear no other; but they are indignant at the change, and

treat it with contempt. However, they deign to acknowledge the favour his majesty did them, in ordering free ingress and egress in and out the city at all hours of the night; previously, the gates had been closed at nine, although the ramparts had been turned into public walks.

A large military force is kept up, and those officers who served in the Hanoverian legion are particularly well off, as, in addition to their full pay, they enjoy the half pay of our army; and I am happy to do them the justice to say, that they appear very sensible of the liberality of the English government towards them. I am the more pleased at this, because, generally speaking, I think there is a very uniform and extensive feeling existing in the country against England. At the Table d'Hôte, there was a very strong argument upon the unfeeling policy of our government, in allowing the people of Ireland to starve, sooner than permit them to import corn from abroad, because (as the Hanoverians conceived the motive,) the importation would tend to continental prosperity. They even went so far as to say, that their connexion with us drained their country of all its specie, and entailed poverty upon its inhabitants. Fortunately, there were two English gentlemen present, perfect masters of the language, who ably combated their arguments, and supported the honour of their country; but, at this last observation, they could retain their gravity no longer, and laughing, they

pulled out about five shillings worth of the base coin that circulates in Hanover, and exclaimed, "Why, we must pay five shillings worth of pure silver to buy this for exportation; and in England, the whole would not fetch ten pence." Yet such are the envy and jealousy of us existing on the Continent, that the most absurd propositions are circulated and believed, merely because, if true, they tend to lower our national character and prosperity. Herrenhausen is a commodious palace of only one story, with an excellent botanical garden attached to it. The plants are generally very thriving, which surprised me, as the soil is perfectly sandy. The parliament-house is small; the upper chamber consists of thirty members, and the lower of forty.

Having taken my place by the mail, precisely at mid-day we drove out of the Post-office yard. There were three waggons drawn by four horses in company, all with the royal livery and arms, as the *roulage* is a government monopoly. However closely connected we may have been at starting, we soon became widely separated; there not being a regular road, each driver took the course he thought would bring him to the post-house in the shortest time, although they were all under the command of the guard in the mail.

Celle is a clean, lively-looking town, although the country about it is so sandy, that the houses of the faubourg appeared as if they were those of a fishing

village. We arrived at Harburg, opposite Hamburg, at four o'clock the next evening, and to sum up an account of the roads all the way from Dusseldorf, if roads they can be called, they are the worst in the world. In many parts there is not even a beaten track, but the route lies through large plains of benthill, or sandy common. The horses are good and lively, notwithstanding which, little more than two miles and a half per hour were made good on an average. The first time of passing, the journey is not very tiresome, for the country appears highly cultivated, in spite of the sand, and in many parts the cultivation extends to the edge of the road, with trees always in view. These are chiefly firs, beech, and small oaks, so that one would be tempted to call it a woody country. The carriage occasionally broke through the plantations, and tore the boughs off against the roof.

Hanover is badly off for water, and appears thinly inhabited. We saw scarcely any villages, but here and there very large farm-houses, which, at one end, contain accommodation for all the stock as well as for the family: they look dreary and miserable, and invariably bear inscriptions outside, relating to the foundation of the buildings, and to the marriages of the parties who inhabit them. An attempt is making to form a *chaussée*, but stones are so scarce, that the design makes little progress. Now and then the *chaussée* is met with for a quarter of

a mile. An importation of Aberdeen granite might not be a bad speculation.

At Harburg they wished to detain us all night, but we insisted upon being furnished with a boat, and had a good passage through the islands which lie in the river, and form part of the territory of Hamburg. They are filled with cattle and geese; the pasture is so good that they are termed the dairy of Hamburg. The French, during their occupation of this part of the country, formed a series of bridges with *ponts-volants* from the main lands, which are now often erroneously cited by the admirers of the French, as one immense bridge thrown by them over the Elbe: nothing can be more unfounded.

When we landed at Hamburg it was late, and before entering the city we were obliged to pay a trifle, as the guards who were old men armed with axes assured us, to the poor. This was a truly civic guard, and a truly benevolent contribution. It is delightful, I reflected, to find a place on the continent where freedom is unfettered, and the civil authority is exercised only for the public good. With these delightful sensations I went to bed at the King of Prussia hotel, deeming myself as free as air. But at day-light I was awaked by the firing of cannon, and when I had again got into a comfortable nap, a fellow came into my room, *sans cérémonie*, to ask for my passport. Of course I refused it at such an unseasonable hour, but not long after-

wards, another fellow came to desire I would enter my name in the book for the police. I also turned him out, but was not long before another came to say the police insisted upon having my passport. This third interruption put me quite out of humour, and I exclaimed, that I would not answer any question till after breakfast, and that if again annoyed, I would throw the fellow down stairs. I could not account for all this police inquiry, but upon sallying out, I found every thing quite military; troops marching in every direction, drums beating, guns firing, and all the bustle of a town besieged. This has continued ever since. On foreign post-days even clerks cannot obtain leave of absence from drill. I found, upon inquiry, that each person is subject to be drilled twelve times a year, and that this is the month selected for the purpose, after which, commercial bustle resumes its sway. They are very wisely throwing the town open, and turning the ramparts into boulevards.

From the appearance of the vessels in the Elbe, I fancy trade has suffered a dreadful diminution since the first paternal hug of the French*. Vessels cannot at any time lie alongside the wharfs, but are obliged to discharge their cargoes into lighters, which, by means of the Alster and canals, go under the warehouses, and are unloaded by cranes. The general convenience as a port is not near so great

* There arrived, during the year 1821, in Hamburg, one thousand eight hundred vessels, of which number six hundred and forty-five were from England.

as I had been led to expect: there are no docks even for repairing vessels, which are obliged to be hauled upon slips. The town is very dirty, and almost always damp; the streets are badly paved, narrow, and in many parts made still more inconvenient by the houses projecting forward. They are built of both brick and wood, and generally have pointed roofs. The walls are thick, the windows narrow, and so very numerous, with so small a space between them, that those belonging to the lower classes might very well be mistaken for manufactories.

The only public walk (within the now forming boulevards) is a kind of mall between rows of trees, on the edge of a large basin formed by the river Alster, which presents, on a summer's evening, when it is covered with pleasure-boats filled with company, and its banks lined with spectators, a very lively scene. Twenty swans are kept on it at the public expense, and to kill one is punished by three years' imprisonment.

The churches are not much worthy of notice. St. Michael's is the handsomest, and has a tower three hundred and ninety feet high. The city is governed by a supreme council of four, which may be styled the executive. The second council consists of four burgomasters, and then comes the senate, consisting of twenty-four members; no branch can act of its own authority. The whole wear very old-fashioned dresses.

The Jews residing in Hamburg, amounting to about eighteen thousand, pay a moderate tax, called the duty of protection; it yields annually about six thousand crowns: it is of very ancient date, and has never varied since it was first imposed. The city cellar and the repository for drugs yield a considerable revenue. The former principally contains Rhenish wine of all ages, from a hundred years old to the last vintage. The repository for drugs is also particularly well furnished, and contains every possible kind of medicine of the best quality. The territory of Hamburg is very confined; so much so, that the Altona-gate has the city arms on the inside, and those of Denmark on the out. There is about a mile of common faubourg, which is a nest of every thing vile, as the sailors can frequent it at all hours of the night by means of their boats, and thereby avoid the gate-tax. In other directions it extends about two miles, except towards Eppendorff, where a tongue of land of about seven miles long appertains to it. Few cities can boast of such beautiful environs: a combination of water, woods, groves, and walks, with a variety of fine prospects, makes Hamburg a delightful residence during summer. The unmarried women wear their hair braided into two long tails down their backs; the married are distinguished by a single tail, and those who have a second time entered upon the joys of wedlock, conceal their hair; altogether, their costume has a pleasing effect. Milk is carried about

in pails painted red, as they are persuaded it is the only colour which does not give it an unpleasant taste.

Inundations are extremely frequent and sudden. The Elbe is indeed restrained by a dyke, but this, with the surrounding country and almost the whole of the city, was overflowed in 1771. A pillar is erected to mark the height of the water, which was astonishing. When the poor inhabitants of cellars or ground floors are driven out by inundation, the richer ones, who occupy the upper stories, are obliged to receive them. We were much pleased with the "Orphans' House," an establishment for six hundred boys and girls, who are received at the tenderest age. They are sent into the country till sufficiently old to commence the system of education pursued by the establishment, which is very good; after this they are bound apprentice to whatever trade they may have a turn to. The whole is supported by voluntary subscription, and does honour to the citizens.

Although Hamburg ranks only as second of the Hanse towns, Lubeck being the first, she has generally acted as the head of the league. The city has hardly any manufactories, therefore its great prosperity is entirely owing to its advantageous situation on the Elbe, by which it becomes the port of transit from and to the heart of Germany; but as many other channels are now open, it is very doubtful if she ever recovers the prosperity which

she enjoyed up to the time of the French occupation. Altona, as well as Hamburg, is in a very declining state. The population of the latter is one hundred and twenty thousand, and of the former twenty-five thousand souls.

The morning after my arrival here I joined my brother at the Hotel de Russie. We have bought a very nice Vienna-built calèche for six hundred and fifty marcs, or forty-seven pounds sterling, from a Frenchman, and are about to depart for Copenhagen, from whence you shall hear from me again.

Adieu.

LETTER II.

Lubeck — River Trave — Bornholm — Eutin — Kiel — Rensburg— Selswick—Gotterp — Flensburg — Holstein — Husum — Apenrade—Snoghoe—Middlefart — Funen — Odensee — Nyburg— Great Belt—Corsoer—Sproe—Slagence—Ringstadt—Roskieldt —Island of Huen Donningord — Charlottelune—Frederickburg—Rosenburg.

Copenhagen, 2nd July, 1822.

The distance from Hamburg to Lubeck is about thirty-six miles, but the road is dreary and execrable.

The environs of Lubeck are wooded and pretty, the Trave winding through the town. The streets are wide, the houses presenting their gable ends, with immensely large lower rooms, which serve for warehouses, and the doors being kept shut give the town a dull appearance: indeed very little seemed to be going on. The churches are built of brick, a few of them are large, particularly that of St. Mary, which contains some paintings, sculpture, and carved work, that are rather curious than fine, particularly the Dance of Death, by Holbein,—a bitter satire upon human vanity. There is a painting of the Crucifixion, with two infants held by the malefactors, one of whom is received by an angel, and the other by the devil; a portrait of a senator who was convicted of intriguing with the Queen of Denmark to deliver the island of Bornholm up to that country, for which he was decapitated: another of Count Speineck, who, having

killed a senator, was sentenced to be torn to pieces, which was executed in the church, and they show the ring to which he was bound. He had turned the course of the river, and performed other eminent services to the city, and hence they boast, with no small pride, that no services whatever would allow a person to escape the penalty due to an infringement of the laws, in proof of which they also show the tomb of a man who, when very young, robbed the poor-box of a penny; he escaped, went to the East Indies, and after a lapse of years, having amassed a large fortune, he returned and filled the box with gold, but this was not sufficient to expiate the crime, and he forfeited his life. The altar-piece in marble, representing the Last Supper, is admirably executed. Opposite is an astronomical clock of curious and useful construction, but rendered ridiculous at noon, by the appearance of figures representing our Saviour and his Apostles, who pass before him, and, when opposite, make him a bow; Judas alone is absent: after this ceremony the whole retire. There is a very fine view from the top of the tower, which is so dreadfully cracked as to render it dangerous to ascend, and I fear it will not stand many years; should it fall, many lives must be lost as it is surrounded by houses.

The Hanseatic saloon is more remarkable for its antiquity and former grandeur than for any thing it contains at present, though the treasury is fitted up in a unique style, with very fine carved work in

oak. The population amounts to thirty-two thousand. The river is so shallow that vessels of burden are obliged to stop at Travemunde, near the entrance, to which place we had a pleasant drive. In summer it is a good deal frequented as a bathing station. We arrived at Eutin, which is the patrimonial property of the Duke of Oldenburg, contained in a circumference of about twenty miles. There is a very neat, small palace, beautifully situated upon the side of a lake. It appears that the inhabitants of this district are contented and happy; they have few imposts, everybody is well dressed, and there are no beggars.

At Kiel, celebrated for the treaty by which Denmark ceded Norway to Sweden, we remained one day, and were amply repaid by the beauties of its situation, and by our inspection of the canal, which unites the Baltic and German ocean. The entrance is about three miles from the town, and is marked by an obelisk with a crown on the top, and the inscription, *Patriæ et populo,* on the base. Near it is a very large building intended for a warehouse, but at present perfectly empty. I suspect there is very little traffic passing through. The bay is very fine, and the entrance is defended by a small fort. On our return we gave the chaplain a passage. He was not dressed in black, but smoked a long pipe, and had two pointers with him.

A good observatory, as well as the college and museum, is now quite neglected, yet the situation

of the town is fine, and we left it with regret. We had here, for the first time, a difficulty about passports, having always travelled with one of Lord Londonderry's, backed by all the ministers of the states, we were likely to pass through. The police master, however, insisted upon our taking a Danish passport, and was not very civil upon the occasion. A steam-boat has lately been established between Kiel and Copenhagen, a great accommodation to the neighbourhood. We arrived at Rensburg in the evening. It is a very strong fortress, standing upon the river Eyder (which terminates what is properly called Germany on the Danish side), and commanding the canal. I did not see any square-rigged vessels. There are warehouses, but they are all empty. Prince Charles of Hesse, father-in-law of the present sovereign, is the governor of Holstein. He went out in state whilst we were there, but we were surprised to find that his vehicle was merely the wicker waggon of the country, with a sort of cabriolet slung in the middle.

At Rensburg I occupied a bed of five feet six by one foot six, placed in an unfurnished room of forty-five feet by twenty, and at Kiel we had the following dinner for about twelve people; soup and bouilli, a large piece of roast beef and vegetables, some fine fish and pease, and then half a calf roasted, after which cheese and cherries terminated this substantial banquet.

With Sleswick and its environs we were much

pleased; the castle of Gottorp displays evident marks of former splendour.

Before entering Flensburg we were surprised by the sight of a wheel elevated on a post, upon which were exposed the bodies and heads of five sailors, recently executed for the murder of their captain on board of a brig in the West Indies. A sixth had also suffered, but something favourable appearing in his case, he was allowed burial; the sight so near the public road was most appalling.

Flensburg is a considerable sea-port town, with a fine bay and harbour, having sufficient depth of water for the largest ships. Previously to quitting Holstein and Sleswick, I must in justice remark that, with the exception of the country between Flensburg and Apenrade, the whole district is highly interesting—towns neat and clean, with good accommodation for travellers—country highly cultivated—interspersed with wood and water—many of the lakes picturesque to a high degree—and the peasants appearing to live in comfort. Their houses are large, generally without chimneys, and divided into two parts, the separation being formed by two large covered doors. Storks are held in great esteem as birds of good auspices, and the farmer is happy if one takes possession of the end of his house, for the encouragement of which it is terminated by two cross pieces of wood, shaped like birds, and affording them facility for forming their nests, which are very large. They always sit

head to wind; at Michaelmas they rendezvous near Husum, and make a general flight for the winter, invariably returning in the spring to the same nest. The roads cannot be called good; the farmers are obliged to keep them in order, and I must do them the credit to say, that they spare no pains: in many parts sea-weed and branches of trees are laid on to present a firmer surface than the sand affords.

According to the regulation of the posts in Denmark, the postmaster is allowed an hour to change horses, but we seldom had occasion to wait so long. In Holstein the postilion is obliged to produce a certificate from the travellers he has conveyed, stating whether they are satisfied with his conduct. Those who have three notes to their prejudice are punished. We invariably found them civil. Our carriage required three horses, which were driven unicorn fashion. We appeared to attract a good deal of attention, and were always saluted in passing, both by rich and poor; the latter I found to be very honest, for having at Apenrade left my pocket telescope, a man ran after us with it, and seemed surprised when I gave him something for his trouble.

The next morning we were conveyed from Snoghoe across the Little Belt to Middlesahrt, in the island of Funen, in a very commodious boat, the distance from ferry to ferry being about one mile and a half, but, from shore to shore, not more than three-quarters of a mile, with from twelve to

twenty fathoms water. It took us twenty minutes to cross, and we paid about seven shillings in full of all demands.

The road across the island, (nineteen miles in length,) is very good, and runs quite straight: the country is flat and the soil sandy (apparently little better than the north of Germany) with some bog and turf. A good deal of the land appears to have been only lately enclosed, and the crops are exceedingly thin, except on one field near Odensee, (the chief town) which had the finest crop of wheat I ever saw. Barriers are placed every mile, but the postilion paid the toll. Nyburg, with a strongly fortified harbour, is famous as the spot from whence that truly patriotic nobleman, the Marquis de la Romana broke with his army from French thraldom, and flew to the assistance of his distressed country, and ultimately lost his life in her cause—a loss perhaps the most severe that was experienced by the Spanish nation during the eventful struggle, for the marquis possessed every quality to form a hero and a legislator.

It ought, for the credit of Bernadotte, to be mentioned, that, according to report, information was conveyed to him of the intended defection of the marquis; but his honour revolting at the base entrapment of the Spaniards by Napoleon, he purposely went to a distant part of his command, in order, without compromising himself, to let them escape.

The Great Belt is about twenty miles wide between Nyburg and Corsoer, with the small island of Sproë about mid way, on which is a telegraph to communicate between the two coasts. During the late war it was in the possession of our cruizers, which were constantly at anchor in all parts of the passage. We were fourteen hours crossing, and paid about two pounds in full of every charge.

The telegraph at Corsoer can be distinguished nearly from the time of leaving the opposite side. The harbour or bay is shallow, but strongly defended against boat attacks. The town is most miserable, as well as the post-house, and we were very happy to find ourselves *en route*, although with miserable cattle, and with equally bad roads as far as Slagence, when both improved. There is a barrier at every mile. The country is generally flat, open, and uninteresting, with a number of churches without towers or steeples, which makes them appear very insignificant; but at Ringstadt there is a fine avenue of trees, and the church has lately been rebuilt of brick, of which material most of the churches are constructed: we had sometimes six or eight in sight at once. The church at Ringstadt contains the ashes of Cnute and Eric.

We reached Roskieldt in the evening, having travelled about five miles an hour; the average rate since leaving Lubeck. This town is situated

on an arm of the Baltic, and was formerly the residence of the kings of Denmark. The Bishop of Roskieldt was primate of the kingdom. The trade was formerly very flourishing, and employed great numbers of men and vessels; but the town is now reduced to a few streets, with grass growing in the midst of them. Nothing indeed remains of its ancient splendour, except the tombs of the kings and of the royal family. These are in a church of Gothic architecture, which has nothing particularly striking in its appearance. The remains of Queen Margaret, who changed the political existence of three nations, are interred facing the altar. Her tomb is covered with a stone, painted black, on which she is represented in alabaster, lying at length: the inscription is as follows:— "This monument was erected by Eric, the successor of Margaret, in honour of that princess, to whose merit posterity will never render sufficient praise." Christian I., who was the first monarch of the House of Oldenburg, is interred in a small chapel; but the monuments of Christian III. and Frederick II., executed in marble, are by far the most magnificent. They came from Italy, and are esteemed master-pieces of sculpture. The tomb of Christian IV., the most remarkable of all the Danish sovereigns, is only distinguished by a simple stone, with a few trophies; these indeed are sufficient, since the page of history will render him immortal. All the coffins are above ground, and it would

seem that some of the earlier kings were quite gigantic. The height of Frederick IV. is marked on a pillar—I could not reach it. Peter the Great marked his own underneath, and I could just touch it. The altar-piece is extremely curious, being of carved oak, three hundred years old, and representing the history of our Saviour from his birth till his crucifixion. Many of the figures have an extraordinary degree of expression, but some are out of proportion: however, upon the whole, it is a very curious and valuable specimen of carving. As at Ringstadt, the upper part of the church is fantastically painted with flowers, which detracts very much from the solemnity of the scene.

The four miles from hence to Copenhagen are the worst in the whole road from Corsoer. Neither the country nor the environs on this side of Copenhagen give you any idea of the vicinity of a capital, and still less of a rich country. There is nothing to be seen the whole way to the suburbs (which suffered much during the unfortunate bombardment of 1807,) worth notice, except the obelisk erected in memory of the freedom granted to the husbandmen: it bears the following inscription—"The king being convinced that civil liberty, directed by just laws, inspires the love of our country, with the courage to defend it, the desire of information, a taste for labour, and the hope of happiness, has therefore commanded that slavery should be

abolished, and that order and despatch should preside at the execution of all rustic laws; so that the husbandman, being free, courageous, enlightened, laborious, and good, may in future become, and be regarded as an inestimable and happy citizen." The base of the obelisk is ornamented with emblems and inscriptions, and bears four marble figures representing Fidelity, Agricultural Industry, Courage, and Patriotism. The prince royal laid the first stone in 1792, and the inscription terms him, "The son of the king, and the friend of the people."

Copenhagen, although certainly in itself very dull, particularly in summer, when all the genteel families are in the country, is still very interesting to the traveller, and contains many establishments which reflect the greatest honour upon the founders and supporters of them.

The Goth street is nearly a mile in length, and is built in a straight line. There are two or three handsome squares, and the ramparts afford pleasant walks, with agreeable views. The streets are generally well paved, with flag-stones for foot passengers, but these are too narrow to be of much use, added to which they are crossed by kennels between each house, and though these are usually covered with planks, it is not always the case, which makes it inconvenient, and indeed dangerous to walk in the dark.

The city within the last thirty years has suffered

dreadfully; first in 1795, by a fire which consumed nearly one-third of it, fortunately the worst part, since which it has been greatly embellished, so that, as with our own capital, perhaps good has arisen from evil. But I fear no such consolatory reflection can proceed from the second suffering, occasioned by our bombardment in 1807. From all I can observe, a deep-rooted enmity against England has taken possession of the minds of the inhabitants, which nothing but her downfal can ever eradicate; nor is the attack of 1801 at all forgotten. Every care is taken to keep alive the sense of the severe injury inflicted upon their national pride in both instances. In the former case, I almost admire the national spirit which continues to feel it, because circumstances, which more powerful nations were unable to control, obliged her to throw herself into the arms of either France or England; and the latter could not have permanently protected her from the grasp of the former, she may, therefore, be said to have been forced into that unnatural alliance, an alliance which ultimately cost her the two brightest jewels of her crown,—Norway and her navy, and, indeed, almost her existence as an independent state.

However, in this case we do not exclusively bear her ire, Russia having a large, and Sweden a small, share of it. They do not fail frequently to quote the manifesto issued by the Emperor of Russia on

the occasion, in which he declares he will never lay down his arms till, "The fleet so shamefully, and in violation of every acknowledged law, seized by England, shall be restored to Denmark;" and they add, "That England retains our fleet, yet Russia made peace and even obliged us to cede Norway, because we kept and fulfilled our engagements with honour and integrity."

Their arguments relative to the attack of 1801 are both curious and fallacious. They say the victory was theirs, and firmly believe that the two English line of battle ships which got on shore had struck, and that Nelson, taking advantage of their ignorance on shore of this circumstance, sent in a flag of truce with a message not founded in truth, and by this unworthy subterfuge, snatched the laurels from their brows, and reaped the fruit of a victory, which in point of honour was theirs. Indeed, they attempt to villify the character of that great hero in every way. They assert that he even traduced the character of the Danish admiral to the crown prince, by saying he shifted his flag three times during the action, and at length retired to the Three Crown battery in order to save his person. I must confess, I was exceedingly hurt to hear these aspersions, because I thought and did hope, that Nelson and his companions in arms had at least won the esteem of the "Brave Danes."

In order to cherish the idea that victory was theirs, till wrested from them by dishonourable

artifice, every officer who was in the battle has a medal to commemorate the victory, and a monument has been erected to those who were killed, bearing this inscription, "They fell, but Denmark stood."

At the battery of the dock-yard, there is a very expressive monument in the form of a broken mast, to the memory of Captain Slagesse, who voluntered to go off and take the command of the Provestein, after her captain was killed. It says, "Worn out by sickness, animated by love of his country, and the presence of his prince, he flew to the Provestein, and met his fate, gloriously in the defence of his country." But the most powerful and affecting tribute to the memory of the brave officers who so gloriously fell in the cause of their country, is one erected in the burying ground appropriated to the marine. It consists of a large block of granite on a mound, the base of which is composed of rough, single stones, upon each of which is marked the name of one of the ships to which the persons belonged. It is kept in excellent order, and like most of the graves in Denmark, has roses and flowers growing round it.

Denmark has about forty thousand seamen: her navy consists of three two-decked ships, five frigates, seven sloops, and about eighty gun-boats; a sad falling off for a nation that once ruled the seas. One of the two-deckers was built out of timber which, by some accident, escaped our rapacious

grasp in 1807, and they have not inaptly named her the Phœnix; and another, being the only ship which escaped, by being at the time in a port of Norway, the seamen whimsically called her the "Widow." While upon this subject, let me pay a tribute of respect to the Danish naval officers, some of whom I have met both in foreign countries, and during my stay here. I must say, I have invariably found them intelligent and gentlemanly, with a great desire to cultivate the acquaintance of Englishmen, and to render them service. The naval arsenal has always been considered as a model for arrangement. It stands on the Isle of Amaak, which, in fact, forms the harbour; a boom dividing the king's from the merchants' or commercial part. It may truly be said at the present moment to be a skeleton.

Commerce is very dull, there being only one vessel at my appearance at the Custom-house; and we were not displeased to find her the Mulgrave Castle, of Scarborough, with a cargo from the East Indies. There are, however, a good many vessels in the roads, but principally wind bound.

Activity appears to reign at the Island of the Three Crowns, which they are strengthening by a very thick parapet. The city is regularly fortified, and is surrounded by a very considerable ditch, but blockaded by sea and land, no populous capital can hold out long; and this contains ninety thousand inhabitants independently of the military; yet General

Pieman who capitulated to the English in 1807, has ever since been in disgrace.

From the top of St. Saviour's church, which is ascended by an outer stair-case, there is a magnificent and extensive view.

Tycho Brahe made some of his best observations on the Island of Huen; and in the Exchange, there is a good painting of his receiving a gold medal from Frederick II. who paid him a visit, attended by his chancellor, who disliked Tycho from the circumstance of his having married into a plebeian family. It seems, that James VI. of Scotland, had previously visited him and given him a dog. The faithful animal flew at and bit the chancellor, to the evident satisfaction of the wife, which is admirably depicted in her countenance, as are also the pain and rage of the chancellor, and something between satisfaction at the attack, and dread of its consequences in that of Tycho.

The far-famed observatory is ascended by an inclined plane of eleven feet wide, up which Peter the Great is said to have driven his carriage: it was erected in 1637, but by some error in its construction, it is perfectly useless for its intended purpose, as carriages passing, and even the sound of the church-bells, cause such vibrations, as materially to affect the instruments and chronometers.

On Saturday we dined at Donningord with our minister, Mr. Foster. It is a pretty situation, and when in the possession of M. De Konning was

well known by the unbounded hospitality which he exercised there to every stranger who visited Copenhagen. But the house has fallen with the fortunes of this respectable merchant, and is now almost a ruin. We were surprised to find many people walking about the grounds, and even approaching the windows; but, upon inquiry, found that in Zealand, no park or lawn can be closed against the public, who are by the same law, bound to treat the proprietor with respect.

About the time of St. John's day, a fair is held in the royal park, near a spring, and every inhabitant of Copenhagen feels bound to repair to it, in order, by a libation, to propitiate the presiding spirit in his favour during the rest of the year. The royal family are not exempt; and generally perform their devotions in great state. On Sunday we repaired to Bellevue in a stool waggon, the common conveyance of the country for all classes of people; it is most inconvenient, not affording protection against either sun or rain. The number of people assembled was extraordinary; for the steam-boat constantly passing and re-passing, gave a great facility to the citizens to repair to the spot. The female peasants were fantastically dressed, wearing caps richly embroidered behind, green jackets and red ribands, and I must say, that the women were exceedingly plain, not excepting the higher orders.

In returning we called at Charlottelune, a royal

domain, at four miles from the capital, which is open to the public all the summer, and where an equally gay scene was passing.

Entering the city, we were surprised to find part of several streets brilliantly illuminated, in consequence of a marriage, it appearing that the neighbours and friends of the bride and bridegroom take that method of showing their respect and good wishes for the happy pair.

The royal castle of Frederickburg stands about half a league from the city, and the gardens being laid out with much taste, are a good deal frequented in summer: in 1807, the English had batteries between it and the city.

The castle of Rosenburg is a Gothic edifice, used as a jewel-office: it contains the ivory throne, and chairs used at the coronation of the kings of Denmark, three silver lions which are placed before it during the ceremony, a large silver dish and stand, used at royal christenings, curious pieces of crystal, presented by the republic of Venice, cases filled with gold and silver plate, and paintings in enamel. Two gold boxes, presented by the city of London and the Goldsmith's Company to Christian VII. are remarkably fine; the embossed figures on them are elegant and extremely well executed.

They also exhibit in this castle, dresses worn by the different kings. Among others, was shown us that of Christian IV. (born 1577,) worn during the sea-fight in which he lost an eye by the splinter of

a mast. His laced cravat and the handkerchief he bound round the wound are spotted with blood: the two latter articles are not the most pleasing to look at.

There are also twelve pieces of fine tapestry, representing both the military and bourgeois costumes of Denmark. The remains of the royal castle or palace, saved from the destructive fire of 1795, contain the king's library, museum, and gallery of paintings. The latter has, unfortunately, a very bad light. The library contains about one hundred and fifty thousand volumes, and four thousand manuscripts: the latter are rare and valuable, and the greatest possible facility is given to public research. The liberal feeling is carried so far, as to allow books to be taken home by respectable persons, the benefit of which we experienced, as the librarian had the kindness to allow us to take a book we wished to consult away with us to our hotel.

The museum contains an amazing number of unique and interesting objects, the collecting of which is certainly a national honour. A mummy is shown, of which Peter the Great is said, in his insatiable research after truth, to have bitten off the nose, in order to find out the means used by the ancients to preserve their dead.

The Danes are not a little proud, and indeed with reason, of their countryman, the celebrated sculptor Thorwaldsen, the rival of Canova. Like many other great geniuses, he was neglected at

home, and obliged to seek protection abroad; but, like a truly great man, he still loves his native country. He is just now employed upon an altar piece for the cathedral which is building, in the room of the one destroyed during the bombardment. In order however that, like its predecessor, it may not be marked for destruction by its superior size to other buildings, it is to be finished without a spire.

The land arsenal is kept in very good order, and tolerably well filled with field trains, small arms, and pontoons. There are also some military trophies, and ancient pieces of artillery of different shapes. Among the former, they show a Swedish banner with a curious device, *viz.*, a cat watching a mouse in a trap, a device which they adopted in derision, during a blockade of Copenhagen: at length, the Danes were so irritated at the insult, that they made a sortie, and succeeded in bearing off the banner.

To prevent unnecessary litigation, the king has established a court of equity or arbitration, the members of which are paid entirely by government, and no expense is incurred by the parties appealing to its decision. No suit can be instituted in any court without a certificate, to state that the parties have ineffectually attempted to have it settled by arbitration. Mr. Foster told us an anecdote extremely illustrative of the paternal government of Denmark. An Englishman came to the capital

with a menagerie, and amongst other beasts, there was a lion, into whose mouth he was in the habit of putting his head, this feat constituted a very considerable share of his profits. The police hearing of it, and having more regard for his safety than he appeared to have for it himself, forbade that part of the exhibition, and the man came to Mr. Foster for redress, complaining of being a considerable loser by the excessive caution of the police. Mr. Foster stated the case to government, who continued the prohibition; but immediately indemnified the man, saying, they could not allow him to run such a risk of losing his life, while in the states of the king of Denmark.

The police are prohibited from granting a passport, till the applicant produces a certificate from the master of the house where he lodges that he is not in debt.

The only oppressive thing we heard of, is a very severe tax upon provisions coming into the capital, which renders living much dearer there than in the country. The supply of vegetables comes from the island of Amaak, inhabited by a colony of Dutch families, who emigrated about two hundred years ago, and still wear their original style of dress, and preserve their national manners, never having intermarried with the Danes, or formed any connexion with them.

In consequence of the king being confined with erysipelas, we have not seen him; but he is represented to us as plain and unostentatious, even

mixing with the citizens, and having generally one of his daughters under his arm.

In case of war, sixty thousand troops can be brought into the field; they are dressed in red: the national cockade is black. It may be mentioned as a novel circumstance, that there is at this moment in the roads, a Prussian ship, commanded by Commodore Billing, formerly of the Danish navy, but now employed at the head of the Prussian naval academy, established at Dantzic, with the cadets of which he is upon a cruize, in order to give them a practical knowledge of seamanship. It would be odd, if the King of Prussia created a marine from the following circumstance. During the review at Spithead, in 1814, when the allied sovereigns were present, his Prussian majesty was much struck with a boat belonging to Captain Inglis, of the Rodney, which was rigged as a ship, and performed the manœuvres with the fleet. The Prince Regent observing this, presented it to him, and the captain's son was made a lieutenant, and sent to Prussia in charge of her. When the King of Prussia found himself in possession of this man-of-war, he facetiously observed to the Emperor of Russia and the Prince Regent, "My brothers, I hope you will not be jealous of my marine."

We have found our expense of travelling, since leaving Hamburg, about thirteen pence halfpenny per English mile, for three horses, including postilion and waggon master: the postilion wears a uniform and

horn. The post-houses are tolerably well supplied with provisions, but they are badly off for beds. We have travelled thus far with the specie dollar, which we procured in Hamburg, but in general, nothing but paper money is to be seen; the Jews being said to have got all the specie into their possession, and to have profited most amazingly and rapaciously by the fluctuation of the paper currency, and the financial distress of the country. They have also the reputation of success in intrigues, and are therefore universally detested by the men; but their rage is impotent, and Moses continues to enjoy their money, and his success in his amours.

LETTER III.

Elsineur—The Sound—Helsingburg—Cronburg—Camp at Udewalla —Tyringe — Roinge — Christianstadt—Bleckingen — Fjelkinge Gädenry — Carlshamn—Runneby— Carlscrona—Aster—Djuromola—Wexio — Jonkoping—Wringstadt— Adelfors — Smoland — Eklanda — Alingsahs—Lake Mjoren— Lerum—Ledhester— Hagna—Götheburg.

Götheburg, 21st July, 1822.

When I last wrote to you, we were on the point of quitting the Danish capital, in order to cross the Sound, from Elsineur to Helsingburg. The road to the former town is good and pleasant. The castle of Cronburg and the town of Elsineur are imposing at a distance; the former is celebrated as the place in which the unfortunate Queen Matilda was confined; and a tower, which it wants to produce uniformity, is said to have been knocked down by a shot from the ship of Captain M^c^Bride, who commanded the English squadron sent to convey her to Hanover. A garden is now shown at Elsineur which goes by the name of the garden of Prince Hamlet; it is in a very neglected state, but its situation is delightful.

From Mr. Fenwick, our consul, we received the attention and hospitality for which he is so remarkable. He told us that he had that morning received a visit from an extraordinary personage, Mr. Holman, a lieutenant of the English navy, and a knight of Windsor, who, although perfectly blind,

was on his way *to see* St. Petersburg and the Russian customs. We have now changed our Hamburg dollars for Swedish paper, and, as we understand, have bid a long adieu to any thing in the shape of specie.

Elsineur is like nearly all seaports, a dirty but busy town: amongst seamen it is known by the name of the "Gin-shop," because all British vessels here lay in a considerable stock of that spirit to serve them during their absence from England. The Sound dues are still submitted to by all Europe, and are rigidly enforced by the Danes, for which purpose a man-of-war is stationed in the roads, exacting not only the toll, but a mark of respect from all merchantmen to the Danish flag. Last year eight thousand four hundred and ninety vessels passed through, of which number three thousand one hundred were British. We procured a boat at a moderate sum, and crossed the Sound with our carriage and baggage in thirty-five minutes; the distance is about two miles and three-quarters, but the narrowest part between the two coasts, having been measured when frozen over, is said to be only one thousand three hundred fathoms. Upon arriving at Helsingburg it is impossible to conceive a greater contrast than it presented to Elsineur. There, we were annoyed by the incessant and officious offers of assistance to embark our carriage, baggage, *&c.*; here, not a soul was to be seen, and we were absolutely obliged to send up to the town and *request* some people to come down

before we would disembark our equipage. A small convenient pier has been run out, but it is now in a dilapidated state.

At the custom-house they were civil, and allowed us to put our own value upon our carriage, upon which we paid a small duty, receiving a document to enable us to recover nearly the whole of it, whenever it might again cross the frontier.

We immediately waited upon the governor, who received us most cordially, and informed us he had just received a despatch from Udewalla, to say that the king would quit the camp in three days, and it was consequently useless our attempting to arrive there before his departure. We accordingly altered our route, and determined to proceed, in the first place, to Carlscrona. The governor very kindly extended our passports so as to enable us to traverse the kingdom in every direction, which may be considered as a great indulgence, for so strict are the police laws, that no foreigners, except Englishmen and Americans, are allowed to approach the capital, till permission is granted by the minister of foreign affairs. *A propos* of ministers. His excellency was much astonished at the number of titles possessed by the Marquis of Londonderry, and requested an explanation, which we readily afforded, not without thinking them almost as ridiculous as those of the travelling Spaniard, so renowned in story.

The mode of travelling in Sweden differs from

that of every other country, and is by far the most tedious I have ever experienced. Although there are post-houses and post-masters, there are not any post-horses, and all the proprietors of horses in each district are obliged to furnish them in rotation. In consequence of these regulations, it has become a custom to send an *avant courier*, termed a *förebud*, to put the horses you may want in requisition, and it is therefore absolutely necessary before setting out, to make up your mind as to the exact road you mean to pursue, and the time of arriving at each post-house; for if the horses are kept waiting beyond a certain time, a forfeit is paid; and as at each station they are entitled to four hours' notice, you must consequently calculate your route so accurately as to allow your *förebud* to arrive at the last station four hours before you. He is himself liable to be detained at each station for some time before he is furnished with a horse; it consequently follows that, in a long journey, he must have a very considerable start. Although, when actually in motion, the roads being excellent, you make good the Swedish, or six English miles, an hour; yet, owing to these regulations, Sweden may fairly be pronounced the most inconvenient travelling country in Europe. But it is said that the inconveniences exist only in the cross roads, and that on the high roads, horses are always to be found ready, and that the *förebud* consequently becomes unnecessary. I can only say, that we have been sometimes at post-

houses on the high road to Stockholm without the sign of a spare horse.

The master of the hotel at Helsingburg procured shafts for the carriage and harness for the horses, travellers being obliged to find their own, as well as to make their servants drive; he also procured us a soldier who agreed for a moderate sum, about three shillings a day, to go with us as far as this place. Every thing being finally arranged, the *förebud* was despatched at six, and we departed at twelve o'clock, with three miserable horses. We left our host well satisfied with our treatment, and prejudiced in favour of the national character, from the frankness we had experienced in every department, from the governor downwards. We got on very well through a poor but wooded country, at the rate of the Swedish mile an hour, till we reached Tyringe, where horses failed us. We were detained two hours, without any accommodation or possibility of procuring refreshment, till three miserable animals made their appearance and conveyed us to Roinge, a post-house which afforded a scanty supply of cold meat and clean beds. We started early in the morning and breakfasted at Christianstadt, a fortified town, and great artillery dépôt. The country around is low, and sometimes overflowed, so that we had a very long bridge to pass in quitting it; but scenery of a bolder character soon presents itself, and upon entering the district of Bleckingen it becomes rather hilly and rocky. Near Fjelkinge we remarked an

extraordinarily large, isolated stone, at least twelve feet in circumference; as our servant was anxious to point it out to us, we suppose there is some history attached to it, but have as yet been unable to gain any information; we will therefore bear it in mind when we arrive at Stockholm.

At Gädenry we were again detained for horses; but as the situation of it is extremely picturesque, we were rather pleased with the delay: indeed, all the way to Carlscrona the road is interesting. Carlshamn, where we slept, is a good town, possessing a capital harbour and some commerce; we were well accommodated by a respectable man named Steinhor, who gave us a recommendation to a house at Carlscrona, it appearing that it does not follow of course that you are to be received at a lodging-house, the master expecting a character from your former host. With the scenery about Runneby we were particularly pleased. It rained hard during the forenoon, but about two cleared up and presented us with a view of Carlscrona, which, from the land, has nothing particularly striking. The town occupies a cluster of small islands lying on the sea coast: three of these, connected by long wooden bridges, form the site of the town; the rest of the group serve for the erection of works to protect the harbour, some of which appear formidable, but are in a neglected state. Carlscrona is badly off for water, chiefly depending upon rain for a supply.

The town, like all others that we have passed

through in Sweden, is entirely built of wood; but as the streets are wide and regular, and as many of the houses are large, and all are painted or ochred red, white, or black, with good glazed windows, and there being two good churches and two squares, the appearance of the town is upon the whole pleasing. Being built upon rock, and the streets presenting an uneven surface, walking is extremely distressing; and I suspect the inhabitants find it particularly so; for many streets were without a soul to be seen in them, and the surface was covered with grass, or at least by a green vegetation. At present it possesses only one garden, but a public one is forming near the wooden bridge by which we entered, and they are also constructing a bridge of stone in lieu of the present wooden bridge and causeway. Upon the whole it may be said, that Carlscrona and its environs are more desolate than it is possible to imagine: for many miles around nothing but bare rock and the sea are to be discovered, except a small spot, called Aster, where there is a sort of garden which is much frequented on Sundays, by means of boats in summer, and by crossing the ice in winter. In short, the naval officers may be said to be completely banished from the world and its enjoyments, except as far as depends upon themselves; and I must say, I never met with a set of people better calculated to supply their privations by their own intelligence and internal resources.

We were hospitably entertained by Rear Admiral

Nordenskoild, and Colonel (that is to say, Post Captain) Amie, with an elegance that would have done honour to the highest society of any country. On these occasions we were initiated into the northern custom of *snaps*, or taking a dram and a piece of raw ham or herring, before dinner.

The admiral, a very superior man in point of education and talent, had served a considerable time on board of the Alcmene, British frigate, under the command of that active, enterprising, and deservedly fortunate officer, the present Admiral Digby; and it was gratifying to hear him express himself in the warmest terms of all his old acquaintances. There was also a Major Ram, who had served in the battle of Copenhagen in 1801, on board of the Edgar, the ship which is described by Lord Nelson as commanded by his friend George Murray, and as having set a noble example of intrepedity in leading into action. Much encouragement is given by the Swedish government to naval officers, to induce them to serve on board foreign men-of-war, in order to gain a practical knowledge of their profession.

The fleet consists of thirteen two deckers, carrying from seventy-four to eighty-four guns each, five frigates, ten sloops or brigs, and about forty gun-boats. Two of the eighty-four gun-ships are building, and about five of the seventy-fours are sea worthy. They have all of them their lower masts in, and a few of them are covered over. Those

repaired are well painted, and the others are very bare.

Of the intended thirty excavated docks, only three are finished; with a small inner basin, and an outer one which will hold about six sail of the line. It is destitute of gates, and with a sea-wind, a good deal of sea must be driven into it. The depth of water is about thirty feet.

Two other docks are partly excavated, and have been so for a length of time, but they are not now working at them.

There are still one dock and a slip on the island which forms the port. The latter is abandoned, as they now build entirely in the docks, giving as a reason that the ships are not strained in launching. It may be worthy of remark, that when making one of the docks, it was thought impossible to get a proper foundation, the bottom becoming so soft that a pole could be run down thirty feet, and they despaired of succeeding, till somebody recommended a foundation of burnt but not slacked lime, with granite and puzzolani, thrown down indiscriminately. These materials, after a time, united and formed a solid mass; so that the bottom is now as firm as the rock itself.

All the docks are covered, but the pillars are extremely heavy, and the workmen have not sufficient light.

The garrison is composed of two thousand marines, commanded by naval officers.

The seamen are divided into companies, and have land assigned to them in different districts, which they are obliged to cultivate. Some of them are sent out every summer to exercise. I was astonished to find officers, otherwise well informed, maintain that commerce is not at all necessary to form seamen, the summer exercise being sufficient.

There appears to be a general feeling, that the fleet is of little use, and that the defence of the coast ought to be intrusted to gun-boats and small craft, of which they have large establishments at Stockholm, and near this town (Götheborg.)

Many of the officers are attached to the *rusticating* companies. The rest are obliged to reside at the sea-ports. Their uniform is very similar to ours, but they are distinguished by military titles, as generals, colonels, majors, *&c.*, which, perhaps, are more appropriate to them, as many of them have not been at sea since the late war. Some wear a medal which may be obtained either by length of service, (twenty-five years), a distinguished act of gallantry, or a series of petty services. There is a naval academy here for the education of boys, but the best school, and the greatest acquisition the Swedes have made to their naval strength, is the trade of Norway, as it is supposed that five thousand good seamen could be obtained from that country in case of emergency, which will at all times render them superior to the Russians in practical seamanship.

The number of islands towards the sea, and which form the port, is quite extraordinary, and renders the entrance difficult; added to which, several of them are fortified with case-mated batteries; others are remarkable objects, from having landmarks erected on them.

The masting-machine, near the basin, must be a very conspicuous object from the sea. The model room contains some beautiful draughts and mouldings of the hulls of ships, chiefly upon the principle of the father of their navy, the late Admiral Chapman, an extremely scientific man, and who, like Peter the Great, for the sake of acquiring practical knowledge, came over to England, and entered himself as a common shipwright in one of our arsenals. He improved the principles of shipbuilding very much, and the Swedes are not ungrateful to him. There is a good medallion of him, with an appropriate, laudatory inscription, placed in the loft by order of the ex-king.

To the credit of Swedish ingenuity, though to the discredit of their appreciating it, I must mention, that we were shewn a lock for cannon very nearly equal to the one now in use in our navy, and which was proposed to the Swedish government and rejected, in the year 1758.

Taking leave of our friends, which, in this country, is a matter of considerable ceremony, and you are expected to kiss the ladies' hands, we departed at daylight on the morning of the 12th instant, and

arrived, as had been arranged, at Djursmola for dinner, or *middaggen*, but found nothing prepared, and were obliged to be contented with bad bacon and eggs: however, at Wexio, a very nice, clean, wooden town where we slept, we found good accommodation of every description. The road during the day was very good, with a pretty, romantic country, latterly with lakes and islands, but immediately around the town it was open and cultivated. To Jonkoping the road was equally good and interesting, although without turnpikes.

The proprietors are bound to keep the roads in order; and, as there is very little heavy traffic, they are not much cut up; they are so smooth and fine, and the continual forest of pines being lined off with neat paling, the journey appears like a continual drive through a gentleman's park; but you look in vain for the mansion, or, indeed, for the humbler lodge, the country being thinly inhabited, and, as far as we have seen, in some measure justifying the following remark of Dr. Clarke's:—"Let the reader cast his eyes upon the map of Sweden, and imagine the Gulf of Bothnia to be surrounded by one contiguous, unbroken forest, as ancient as the world, consisting principally of pine-trees, with a few mingling birch and juniper trees; he will have a general and tolerably correct notion of the real appearance of the country. If the sovereigns of Europe were each to be designated by some little characteristics of the nature of his dominions,

we might call the Swedish monarch, Lord of the Woods; because, in surveying his territories, he might travel over a great part of his kingdom from sunrise until sunset, and find no other subjects than the trees of his forests." At Wringstadt we found an excellent *middaggen*, or dinner, prepared for us; and soon afterwards we passed a good deal of scoria. The gold mine of Adelfors, the only one in Sweden, is in this province of Smoland, but notwithstanding its promising title, its produce is so very trifling as not to repay the expense of working it.

We had this day a little trouble with our paper-money, a post-master having refused to take some in payment, because one of the four signatures had been torn off. I beg you to understand, that we are without any other money, some of the notes running as low as twopence.

We were much pleased with Jonkoping, where we were well accommodated for the night. It stands at the southern extremity of the western lake, which extends sixty miles to the north-east, with deep, clear, good water, and with picturesque banks.

Near the town we saw a party travelling in two private carriages. I mention this because they are the first we have met with since leaving Lubeck.

Upon quitting Jonkoping we had several steep hills, particularly beyond Ledhester; and we found the horses so weak that we were obliged to walk a

considerable part of the way. We found a tolerable *middaggen* at Hägna, after passing which, the country assumes quite a novel appearance, being rocky and without trees.

The last stage, from Eklanda to Alingsahs, the animals were miserable indeed, and both our man and the peasant had frequently their whips up at the same moment. Upon arriving at Alingsahs, the neighbourhood becomes woody and fertile; it is, indeed, the prettiest place we have seen in Sweden. There was also an appearance of commerce, the river which runs through it communicating with Götheborg by the Mjoren lake. To-day, for the first time, we met with carts laden with merchandise and herrings in casks. We found excellent accommodation prepared for us; the bread ever since leaving Carlscrona has been particularly good.

At Lerum we overtook the *förebud*, and the horses not being ready, we threatened to enter the neglect in the day-book, upon which the post-mistress appeared alarmed, and, patting us on the back, promised they should immediately arrive. We soon saw a young damsel trotting to the house, cross-legged upon a white steed, and in a few minutes two others came. Mademoiselle, who was rather good looking, accompanied us in order to conduct them back. At times we have had as many boys as horses, if they happened to belong to different owners, but travellers are not obliged to let them ride on their carriage.

At two miles from Lerum the road winds beautifully by the side of the river, and an obelisk, a small one it must be confessed, is erected to commemorate that the road was made by an individual: the old road went across a hill, and was tedious and difficult.

The steeples and towers of Götheborg are seen at some distance, and are imposing. On arriving at the gate we were questioned, but not examined, by the custom-house officers. In the evening we were compelled to repair to the police-office in order to sign our names, since which we have not been at all annoyed.

The consul soon sent me your letter of the 1st instant, accompanied by several others from my friends, and Mr. Berkely obligingly lent us London papers up to the 8th (we arrived on the 12th), which are particularly recent, the packet having had a good passage: the distance from Harwich being about six hundred miles. We were thus put in possession of that which proves the greatest comfort to a traveller in a foreign land, letters containing good accounts from those we respect, and newspapers detailing the prosperity of our native land.

This city is the second in Sweden, and may be termed handsome. The houses are large and built either of stone or of brick stuccoed. The streets are wide but without *trottoirs*. Canals are cut through the principal ones, some of which are planted with rows of trees.

Götheborg stands on the river Gotha, which, flowing from the lake Wenern, divides itself into two branches at Bohus, forming an island called Bohus, before it reaches Gotheborg, a little to the south-west of which the southern branch falls into the sea. As ships do not come higher up than Marstuket, the city has all the benefits without any of the inconveniencies of a sea-port town. Considerable commerce is carried on, and during the hour of business, the exchange presents a scene of great activity. The principal exports are iron and plank; the imports East and West India produce. Formerly the herring fishery was carried on to an extraordinary extent; it having been said for some years to have produced upwards of two millions of barrels, but within these few years, it has entirely failed, the herrings having, with a capriciousness for which they are remarkable, completely forsaken the neighbourhood. The Swedes say that the fault lies entirely with the English, and they give the following reason:—A law existed that no vessel should presume to fire even a signal gun within a certain distance of the coast, but when our fleets and convoys made Wingo Sound, their rendezvous, the commanders disregarding this salutary law, guns were fired morning, noon, and night, and the herrings were frightened away, as the Swedes had anticipated. A similar emigration suspended their fishing prosperity for some years during the latter end of the eighteenth century, so that, perhaps, in time, they may again return.

The Swedes bear their deprivation with great philosophy, and those merchants not immediately connected with the fishery are glad of it, because the town is relieved from the intolerable stench attending it. London porter was a great article of import till within these few years, that Messrs. Laurent and Nooning have embarked a capital of fifty thousand pounds in a brewery, and have succeeded so well as to supersede the necessity of any importation. Indeed, their porter comes so near to the London beverage, that people say they get their water from the Thames. It is in very general use throughout Sweden, and is producing a great moral reform, by lessening the consumption of that most pernicious of all spirits, corn brandy, which is bad enough when pure, but, in the compound state in which it is retailed, it is little less than slow poison.

We have found the merchants, both native and foreign, extremely hospitable, and their style of living expensive. Grace before and after dinner, with a profound bow to the lady and master of the house, is a ceremony universally observed ; the great length of which, and the solemnity of the Swedes on the occasion, would excite the risible muscles, were they not restrained by a sense of propriety.

At all dinner parties healths are drunk out of an immense cup filled with choice wine; this passes round the table and every one is expected to taste it.

Mr. Hepburn, an English gentleman, has eight

very fine rein deer; they were brought from Lapland by a family on speculation, who having sold them, returned to their own country, leaving a little girl of nine years old to take care of them, and I fear they may be said to have sold her too. She is by no means of a pleasing or intelligent countenance, but does not want intellect. Mr. Hepburn is very kind to her, and she is making considerable progress in reading and writing. She has great command over the deer, which are fine animals with immense antlers, the growth of only three months, and much out of proportion to the size of the body. As the antlers have not yet acquired their uniform horny substance, the softer parts are infested by myriads of small flies, which appear to annoy the animals dreadfully. Although they are in a field with luxuriant grass, they will hardly touch it, and they are obliged to be fed upon moss, which they devour with avidity.

In Lapland their great enemy is the wolf, but if not taken by surprise, they are said to have the superiority, as they bound upon him, and striking the small of the back, break it.

The new wharf, or gun-boat station, is just below Marstuket, and they are now both improving and strengthening it. They have twelve schooners of ten guns each, and forty-eight gun-boats, carrying two heavy guns and some swivels. There are several forts to defend this establishment, and the channel below it, by which all vessels bound to Götheborg

must pass. Götheborg cannot boast of many public establishments or societies: the hospital is the only one which does it credit. A small theatre is open during the winter, and for summer amusement the inhabitants have a sort of Vauxhall, situated without the walls, which, by-the-by, are levelling, in order to throw the town open. The population is about nineteen thousand. The suburbs are built of wood. On one side the country is rocky and steril, but near the river it is low and marshy, and there is good snipe and duck shooting, as well as fishing.

The weather in general has been extremely hot, the thermometer being at eighty degrees; but yesterday we had a severe storm of hail, thunder, and lightning, the latter not very vivid, but it caused a good deal of terror amongst the females, who are very superstitious, and hold it in great dread.

Our soldier's term being expired, we have been endeavouring to supply his place, and have at length succeeded at something like a moderate price, his hire being at four shillings and sixpence *per diem*, but in general their demands have been exorbitant. An Englishman married to a Swedish woman, and who gets his living by attending strangers through the country, or going to Stockholm as a courier, asked something quite out of the way, calculating that we could not do without him; and when we thought that by reasoning upon the expense he would be at, and the sum he would still gain by attending us through Norway to Stockholm, we had driven him from all

tenable positions, he made a final stand, by desiring us to consider, what the learning of the language and customs had cost him; this argument we could not combat, but we declined paying the expenses of his education, and had nothing more to do with him.

To-morrow we purpose starting for Christiania, in Norway, by way of Marstrand and the celebrated Trollhättan falls and locks, of which so much has been said and written. It is reported that the good people of this city have, from self-interest, interfered to prevent the latter being made sufficiently wide to allow merchant vessels to pass through, so that Götheborg must become the dépôt and place of transhipment. However, you shall hear further when inquiry allows me to ascertain the truth.

As we are told not to expect to find *middaggens* in that country, we have provided a magazine of dried meats, cheese, *&c.* To prevent the possibility of delay in the *förebud*, it is customary to send a trunk by him, which prevents him from walking; for the secret appears to be, that the *förebud* is allowed the price of a horse, and if he has nothing to carry he walks and pockets the money, by which means he is soon overtaken; but if charged with a trunk, he is obliged to take the horse and cart, and has no motive for delay. As all our baggage stows admirably in our carriage, we do not like to part with any of it, but have had a box made, and putting a good heavy piece of wood inside and filling it up with straw, have delivered it in charge of the *före-*

bud, as part of our valuable effects, and sent him off to prepare horses for us. I must observe, as one singularity at Götheborg, that the servant-maids are distinguished by a close cap, with a knot behind, and a blue veil, so that they look like nuns.

My next will probably be from the capital of Norway.—Adieu.

LETTER IV.

Marstrand — Kungälf — Tjuskil — River Gotha — Bohus — Lilla Edet — Gerdhem — Trollhattan — Canal—Wenersborg—Halleborg and Hunneborg Mountains — Skjallered—Soortesborg — Wik—Stromstadt—Hogdal—River Glomen—Helle—Fredericksten—Fredericksball—Moss—Swinsund—Christiania.

Christiania, 30th July, 1822.

THE road from Götheborg to Marstrand lies through Kungälf and Tjuskil; at the former town it became bad, in consequence of which we left our carriage, and proceeded in the post waggon.

During the first stage we travelled by the side of the Gotha, which glides between two chains of rocks, in some places cultivated towards the bottom, and in others barren and overhanging, so as to threaten destruction to all beneath. We were ferried over two arms of the river without taking off the horses; and we remarked, for the first time, a peculiarity in the method the men take to warp the boat across: instead of seizing the hawser with their hands, they are furnished with a short sort of oar, which, by a groove, embraces the rope, and with this lever they go through the same motion as in rowing. It certainly gives them a great purchase, and in cold weather keeps their hands dry, but it destroys the rope: we have since found it very generally practised. The rate of fare is usually moderate. Kungälf was formerly very considerable, but is now in a ruined state, particularly the castle,

called Bohus, which has stood several remarkable sieges by united armies of Danes and Norwegians.

The passage over to Marstrand is about eight miles, which we went in two hours, paying three shillings and sixpence for the boat and four men. The whole distance is studded with islands, nearly barren, yet many of them are allotted to officers and seamen of the fleet as their only means of subsistence, and some have neat dwellings on them; but I suppose the inhabitants must rather look to the produce of the sea than of the land for support. From the top of Marstrand light-house the view is truly picturesque, from the variety of these islands which present themselves in every direction.

Marstrand is, upon the whole, strongly fortified; the castle serves as a state prison. The harbour affords good shelter for the largest vessels, but is extremely difficult of entrance from the infinity of small islands and rocks. During the wars between Sweden and Denmark, particularly whilst Norway was dependent on the latter, Marstrand became of great consequence, and frequently changed masters. Charles XI. finally purchased it from the Danes for three hundred ounces of silver, and the relinquishment of half the sound dues which Sweden formerly claimed, but the payment of which was generally resisted by Denmark.

We were surprised to find a lobster fishery established in the neighbourhood for the supply of Billingsgate market. The consul has a contract at

three-halfpence for every lobster delivered into the well-boats, which are sent over for them from London, and he pays the fishermen one penny. The season lasts between three and four months; fifty thousand were supplied this year. The consul went over to England in the last smack, and, desirous of seeing his own lobsters in the market and showing his knowledge of them, he repaired one morning to Billingsgate and asked the price of a lobster. The sum demanded being exorbitant, he said it was infamous, and that he well knew their real value; upon which the venders found him out, as the person who had introduced foreign lobsters to the prejudice of their own sale, and immediately proceeded to duck him: fortunately the police rescued him before he was seriously injured. He expressed much surprise at the immensity of London, and exclaimed, "Only conceive one city containing a population equal to half that of Sweden." He calculated the former at one million and a half, rather above the mark.

From Kungälf (where we again resumed our carriage) the road is interesting, particularly in the neighbourhood of Lilla Edet where the first (or rather the last) fall of the Gotha is situated, but which is avoided by means of a short canal and locks.

At Gerdhem we came to a highly-cultivated country, presenting field after field of rye and oats.

Trollhättan in itself is small and miserable, notwithstanding the fame its falls and canal have be-

stowed upon it. The former are amongst the most majestic of nature's works, awfully sublime, and the latter is one of the most useful and noble works of art.

The descent of the great fall is twenty-six feet, round an island, with trees most romantically growing on it, secure from the touch of man;—to attempt to reach them would be certain destruction. After this the channel narrows, and another island interrupts the course of the river, occasioning a considerable fall, which, if possible, is more rapid than the preceding. There are two or three minor falls below, after which the course of the river is uninterrupted as far as Lilla Edet.

Many saw and corn-mills are worked by the falls, and some of them appear on the verge of destruction: accidents have happened, but they are of rare occurrence.

Attempts were made as far back as the time of Gustavus Vasa to form a canal here, with locks, so as to render the river navigable by avoiding the rapids, and one was cut alongside of them at an amazing expense, but it entirely failed, since which, by a detour, the desired object has been satisfactorily accomplished. Perhaps the following history of it, from the first idea to its completion, may interest you; it is taken from a small work published by a Mr. Lowegren, an intelligent bookseller in Göthe-borg.

"The first who formed the bold design of open-

ing a communication between the North sea and the Baltic was the illustrious Gustavus I. This ingenious monarch seeing the Swedish commerce much annoyed by the Danes in passing the sound, addressed, in an ever memorable speech, his diet assembled at Stockholm, in the year 1526. He proposed to build Lodeso (now called Götheborg) at the mouth of the Götha-elf, to protect the commerce on the west, and from thence to cut a canal across the country to Stockholm to lead by the lakes Wenern, Hjelmaren, and Malaren. The Orders, astonished at the novelty and the greatness of the design, were unable to conceive the advantages of the project, or the possibility of carrying it into execution. After a few weak efforts on the part of the diet, it fell entirely off, and Gustavus, engaged in more pressing matters, contented himself with building the beforementioned city, and little progress was made in the canal by his successors till the minority of Christiana, when the work was carried on with ardour, and two locks were constructed at Lilla Edet, on a model taken from Holland. When she ascended the throne, Trollhättan and many other works of public utility were totally neglected, and continued so till the latter end of the reign of Charles XI. the father of Swedish legislature and economy. This monarch having restored peace and tranquillity to the nation, harassed by a long and bloody war, began the cutting of Trollhättan with ardour, but a lingering illness, the cause of which is not known, put an end

to the life of this illustrious prince. His son, Charles XII., the Alexander of the north, pleased with what was great and magnificent, and ambitious of transmitting his name to posterity, with the great and glorious actions which immortalize man, found, in Trollhättan, a proper subject for his high spirit of enterprise, and avidity of fame."

"The time, however, was unfavourable; the finances of the realm were drained to the dregs, and the country was almost depopulated under that warlike and heroic reign. About this time arose the famous Polhem, the father of Swedish mechanism, who gave in a plan which, though not acted upon, does immortal honour to his memory. Afterwards, being in his ninetieth year, he rendered the greatest assistance to his son by his advice, when, in 1747, he proposed his design for a communication between the North sea and the Baltic, and which, being approved, a subscription was immediately opened, and the crown subscribed fifty thousand silver dollars, the whole expense being estimated at two hundred thousand dollars. The locks were to be excavated out of the rock, leaving a natural arch, through which vessels should pass by lowering their masts. After four years' labour, the canal was made navigable from Wenersborg to Trollhättan. But here the gordian knot was to be encountered. In order to facilitate the cutting of the lock of Ekeblad, the celebrated dyke or mole of Rafvelstrom was constructed. An attempt of the like nature to turn aside the Prestes-

keds falls (falls of the Priest's Spoon) and to constrain their course through those of Gullo and Nolstrom, was to be made by casting a parabolic arch over the stream, which, although it lost its desired effect through improper management, reflects no little honour on the bold and inventive genius of its immortal projector Polhem. The superintendence of the first-mentioned mole, which, from the island of Malgan to the continent, was two hundred and forty feet long and thirty feet high, was given to Wiman, a famous mechanician, who finished it in a style which does honour to his talent and memory. From the good effects of this ingenious labour, the lock of Ekeblad was finished, (as also that of Polhem, except the gates,) exactly as it is still to be seen."

"Another mole at Flottberg was also necessary; this work, the worst of all, was undertaken and finished by the able Wiman, after arduous exertions from 1751 till 1755; but the very moment that Wiman was to reap the fruit of all his labour, and to receive the reiterated applause of his country, all was lost in a twinkling of an eye.—Envy was more cruel than the impetuous river he had to deal with.—One night, a sad and stormy September night, destroyed the whole work, and buried all his hope, glory, and ambition. Nine of the unfortunate workmen were lost in the drowning element. This act of wickedness was accomplished by casting into the river, a little above the upper falls, nine hundred dozen of large planks, notwithstanding the king's prohibition

against attempts of every description that might prove injurious to the work and workmen at Trollhättan. The mole resisted their repeated attacks for a considerable time, but at length it gave way. This misfortune, or rather flagitious scheme, was sufficient to suspend the work, and to dismiss the unfortunate Wiman, who, conscious of his integrity and undeserved disgrace, shortly after died of grief, meriting a better fate, and a better return from his ungrateful country."

"In 1757 a new plan was devised by Thunberg, which, like all former ones, only went a certain length and was then stopped. The same plan was again revived during the minority of the ex-king, and the late monarch, then regent, accompanied his nephew on his tour through Sweden. During their stay at Götheborg, the cutting of Trollhättan was again revived; certain proposals were laid before the regent, and being submitted to the inspection of a committee chosen at Stockholm, a preference was given to the plan founded on the principles of Thunberg, leaving the others as we now see them, everlasting monuments of the daring and inventive mind of man."

"This plan of the canal, as it at present stands, was executed by levelling, and the expenses were defrayed by subscription, which, in a fortnight, amounted to seven hundred and sixty-five thousand rix dollars, raised in Stockholm, Götheborg, and Christinehamn. The work was carried on with promptitude, under the directions and indefatigable eye of Mr. Nord-

wall, and on August the 1st, 1800, the first vessel passed Trollhättan amidst peals of applause. This bold effort of human genius and perseverance, accomplished, in six years, what a century and a half had hitherto been unable to achieve. The whole expense of this undertaking amounted to three hundred and fifty-eight thousand nine hundred and eighty-eight rix dollars, a mere trifle when we consider the magnitude of the enterprise; it being one mile and a quarter in length, passing two lakes, and having eight locks, one hundred and twenty feet long, twenty-two broad, and fourteen below the level of each other, making a total difference in the level of one hundred and twelve feet. The whole are blown out of the solid rock, and the scene at the upper part is grand, but it is soft below, where there is a good deal of meadow and arable land."—The illiberal interference of the Götheborg merchants before alluded to, appears to be too well founded.

On the crest of a ragged precipice which overlooks all the falls and the town, there is a cavity which, from the smoothness of the rock, has all the appearance of being formed by art, but in fact, it is one of nature's fanciful productions; it is called Tattestot or Tattegry, the giant's seat. It appears as if a kind of kernel, of an oval form, had been detached from the rock and had fallen into the river. These cavities are said not to be uncommon in Sweden, and such kernels or roundish stones are generally found near them. In this cavity all persons are expected to seat themselves, and the names

of the royal family are cut deeply into the rock. It was curious to observe the following names, and to reflect upon the events which have since occurred. Gustavus Adolphus, minor; Charles, Duke of Sudermania, regent; Gustavus Adolphus, king; Charles XIII. king; Carl Jean, crown prince; Oscar, prince. The first was born to a throne, and is now a private wanderer; the last was born in obscurity, but is probably doomed to ascend a throne; such are the uncertainties of the human career.

As vessels cannot track up the river, they are sometimes detained a considerable time between Götheborg and Trollhättan; it is therefore fortunate that the westerly wind is so prevalent. By an ill-judged policy, the tolls are so heavy, that few goods pass, except iron and deals; the latter float down as logs to the saw-mills, most of which are on the old plan of the Dutch. Mr. Dickson has one from England, on Brunell's principle, which performs more work than six of the others.

All the oak in Sweden belongs to the king, or the proprietors of estates can only dispose of it to government; so that, when not wanted for the navy, it is often left to decay, and indeed is generally much neglected.

From Trollhättan to Wenersborg the country is flat, but surrounded by hills. There is a very long causeway with arches like a bridge, over the part near the latter town, where the water from the lake communicates with the river. We here paid a small toll.

Wenersborg is a neat, well-built town, principally of wood, with a royal palace, and a considerable trade in iron by the lake, the shores of which are bold without any very striking features. A good many vessels, of a peculiar construction, were under sail. We found a very good post-house, kept by a German, married to an Irish woman, who has, with much philanthropy, given up a large room in his house, to serve as a Lancastrian school, the first we have met with in the country. Not being aware of our fair countrywoman's residence, upon arriving and calling for a servant, we were a good deal surprised by her answering, "Och sure, what does your honours plase to want." Outside the town there is a neat burying-ground, with two obelisks, bearing, in Swedish, the inscription, "Remember, all must die."

A defile is formed by the two mountains of Halleborg and Hanneborg; it commences about two miles from Wenersborg, and continues about ten miles to Hally: the mountain of Halleborg has been held sacred by the earliest inhabitants of the country, and still preserves some curious memorials of its former sanctity.

Uddewalla is a small, picturesque place: in 1806 it was nearly destroyed by fire, and, therefore, only brick houses are now allowed to be built. With some trade, incidental to its situation on the coast, like Götheborg, it once possessed, but has now lost, a herring fishery, though we could not learn that

its immediate neighbourhood had been alarmed by English guns. We stopped here to procure some medals of his Swedish majesty, struck during the siege of Fredrikshall, when he was crown prince; they were very miserably executed, although they were much prized throughout the kingdom. At Skjallered we were detained for horses; although the *förebud* had, even in this short distance (about seventy miles), been sent off about twelve hours before us; we therefore made a minute of it in the day-book. At Svorteborg, we had ordered a *mid daggen*, but none was provided, and we were at once obliged to apply to our own magazine. At Wik we were detained for horses some time. The post house is neat, large, and clean. In consequence of these detentions, we did not arrive at Stromstad, a fortified town, till midnight, instead of arriving, as we had calculated, at eight o'clock; but we were admitted without difficulty. However, to our astonishment, the post-master said, we could not proceed for two days, as all the horses were bespoke; but he hinted, that by paying a great deal more than the established price, perhaps he could procure some for us. The next morning Mr. Northy, the English vice-consul, brought him to his senses, and an entry was made at our departure of his attempt at imposition. Mr. Northy was very attentive to us, and put us upon our guard against taking Swedish money into Norway; and, as he could not supply us himself with Norwegian currency, he gave us an order, which subsequently proved a valuable acquisition.

This town, like Uddewalla, has not been exempt from fire, an element so destructive throughout this kingdom. The harbour is excellent, and several square rigged vessels were lying at the wharf. It may be remarked, that near the coast, and in the neighbourhood of towns, the land is very much cleared of wood, so as even to produce a scarcity of fuel; and near Uddewalla they depend upon turf as a substitute.

Near Hogdal the country became very hilly, and we were, for the first time, obliged to apply the drag. At length, from the summit of one of these eminences, that noble river, the Glomen, and the picturesque passage of Swinsund, with the almost inaccessible precipices of Norway, broke upon us. At the same moment, it came on to rain tremendously; of this circumstance, the custom-house officers did not fail to take advantage, and in the end, they fleeced us most unmercifully, not because we had any thing contraband, but because they asserted a right to take every article out of our trunks, which, in such weather, there not being any shelter, would have been most inconvenient. I must give them the credit of being most adroit: they did not ask a large sum at first, but whenever we acceded to their demand, they raised it on some other pretence; always ending with, "if you do not like to pay it, open your boxes." At length we satisfied them, and crossed the ferry in a frail bark, not without considerable risk, from the violence of the storm; but the scene was so magnificent as to abstract our

attention from the danger. Upon landing, the Norwegian custom-house officer received us with kindness, and deprecated the imposition of his Swedish brother officers. We ascended the hill with much difficulty; but, on arriving at the summit, were extremely gratified by the sight of a rich and highly cultivated valley, containing more ground than any we had seen in a state of cultivation since leaving Holstein. This gave us a favourable impression of Norway over Sweden, which the contrast of conduct at the custom-houses did not fail to strengthen; we also suddenly encountered a gentleman's carriage, which tended to give us an idea of opulence.

After dining at Helle, the weather clearing up, we proceeded, and soon gained a view of the citadel of Fredriksten, towering over every adjacent object. The town of Fredrikshall was not to be seen, but at length it burst upon us, the two, together with the river and country, presenting a most magnificent *coup d'œil*: the beauty of the scene was not at all diminished by a near approach. We were most hospitably received and entertained by Mr. Hanson, the merchant to whom our friend at Strömstad had given us an introduction. He readily received permission to show us the citadel, and we hastened to visit the spot where the heroic and generous Charles XII. terminated his mortal career. Of the manner in which it happened there has been so much controversy, that I will merely observe, that, as might be expected, the Norwegians are

extremely indignant at the supposition that he met his death in any other way than by a well-pointed gun from the citadel; be that as it may, only a small obelisk now marks the spot where he fell.

In the morning, Mr. Hanson accompanied us on horseback to see the saw-mills, &c., situated about a mile and a half above the town, in regular succession, one above the other, by the side of a fall. You mount an inclined plane formed of logs, and the whole, even in summer, with the water low, appears as if they would be washed away; therefore, in the rainy season, when the water reaches the bridge, it must absolutely be touch and go with them. A very long shoot brings the planks down to the stream, avoiding injury from the fall. The age of the fir-tree can be ascertained by the number of circumgyrations which increase by one every year, and they have been observed as high as eighty, when the tree is supposed to have reached its maturity. The pine differs from the fir, in shooting deeply into the earth, whereas the roots of the latter spread nearly along the surface, and they are of course easily blown down.

From a point just above the mills, the scenery surpasses all description: on one side lies a fine lake, interspersed with well wooded islands; its northern shore is highly cultivated, and with pasture land and cattle grazing, while the southern bank is high and precipitous, and crowned with lofty pines. Near the spot where the river rolls out of the lake, there are a very good house and

grounds belonging to a private gentleman. On looking below the river, the harbour, shipping, and town are discovered, the view in that direction terminating by a large and handsome sugar refinery; to the left, above the town, is viewed the citadel domineering over every thing, and to the right were seen high cliffs, with woods and houses on their edges. Mr. Hanson, without informing us of his intentions, contrived to divert us with fresh beauties, till we suddenly came upon his country-house, where his amiable lady had an elegant *déjeune à la fourchette* provided for us, and during which we were waited upon by six fine children, with an artlessness that quite won our hearts. Mr. Hanson passed a twelvemonth in England at a school in Eltham, and spoke of it with much pleasure; and so many healths were drunk to his and our friends in excellent madeira and claret, that it was not without difficulty we reached our hotel, where our carriage was in readiness to proceed with us. Before taking leave of Fredrikshall, I must say that its situation, its beauty, and the kindness we received, have made too deep an impression on my mind ever to be obliterated: yet, to show the impossibility of finding delight without its antidote, it is with regret I mention that we here saw, for the first time, what is but too common in Norway, malefactors allowed to go about with a sentry, in order to beg or to dispose of articles they have made: they are miserable objects, and are not only chained by the leg, but have a heavy iron collar round the neck.

We saw a man in this situation who had been collector of the customs and in affluence: he will probably remain in this state for life, as he has no means of paying the balance of his accounts.

Mr. Hanson's house is formed of logs of wood; he says, they usually last sixty or seventy years, if care is taken in the selection. Nearly the whole of his furniture is made of birch, which grows on his estate; it is probably the most useful tree in either Sweden or Norway.

From Fredrikshall to Moss, the road is sometimes hilly and sandy, at others, flat with fine gravel. At Swinsund, where we crossed the river in a pontoon, there were several vessels lying ready to take in planks: the logs are conveyed near a mile by a trough, to avoid the falls, which are very fine near the seat of Mr. Rosencratz, who is said to be very attentive to strangers visiting them.

Since arriving in Norway, we have generally been accompanied by as many men as horses; the former are stout and heavy, the latter are poor and weak. The churches have towers or steeples attached to them, and not separated as in Sweden. The religion is strictly Lutheran; there are very few Catholics and no Jews, it appearing that when the Norwegians began to work their silver mines, the latter were excluded from the country, from an apprehension that they should get a monopoly of the metal.

Moss is a neat town romantically situated, and possesses a cannon foundry, some distilleries and saw-

mills; it is therefore an active place, with many vessels in the bay: the coals for the foundry are brought from Newcastle. At the post-house, which is a very good one, the rooms were, according to custom, strewed with sprigs of juniper, which, besides being unwholesome, produce at first a bit, an odd and melancholy effect. Preparations were making for a concert, in which was advertised God save the king, with variations.

We left the town at ten in the forenoon, on a Sunday, and during the day, met an amazing number of country people going to church, all very decently dressed; and, at one time, we saw a party of about fifty on horseback or in carts. The roads were sometimes very steep, but the country was well wooded, and with cultivated tracts, whilst other parts were covered with juniper.

From the top of a hill, almost above the town, we first got sight of this city, Christiania, the capital of Norway. The scene was grand and beautiful a perfect amphitheatre:—the town with fertile environs, studded with country seats, and the foreground a perfect wood of ships, all with their colours flying. The descent is tremendous; near the bottom, our man gave the reins to the horses, and we came down at a rate sufficient, if any accident occurred, to knock the carriage to pieces and break our necks.

The town partakes of a different character from any we have before seen, the houses being built of either stone or stuccoed brick; the log-houses being

confined to the suburbs, and the streets, which are wide and straight, intersecting each other at right angles; its population is about ten thousand souls. The national bank is not placed here but at Drentheim in the north, being more secure from attack, as in Sweden only paper money is in circulation.

We had been warned at Copenhagen to avoid a house kept by a man named Karsar, as he had imposed most shamefully on an English nobleman, therefore we were not a little annoyed when we found it was, "Hobson's choice," and in spite of our previous determination, we were obliged to drive to his house; but we met with at least a very frank reception: we are now very comfortably lodged. We are about to take a trip down the Fiord and return by Kongsborg. The viceroy has had the goodness to allow his aid-de-camp to accompany us, and we depart to-morrow at day-light.—Adieu.

LETTER V.

River Fiord—Port and Arsenal of Horton—Fredricksveern—Kongsborg—Hoinnas—Iron and Silver Mines—Falls of Labrofoss—River Langen—Gousta Mountains—Silver Mines and Manufactories—Drammen—Krock Leven Mountains—Honenfosen—Christiania.

Christiania, 13th August, 1822.

ACCORDING to arrangement, we hired a boat and proceeded down the Fiord at daylight, on the morning of the 31st ultimo; the sail was delightful and the scenery quite romantic. A few miles below the city the passage narrows, being intercepted by some islands on which are three strong batteries. About two o'clock we were in a most violent squall of hail, which lasted half an hour; fortunately the wind continued fair, and at dark we landed at Horton, and were well lodged by a respectable old lady, at a country-house about a mile from the port, which is a magnificent arsenal in embryo. It has all the necessary capabilities of a port, and the plan is well arranged, but as only two thousand pounds per annum is appropriated to its construction, the progress can be but slow. It would appear that they look forward to a large marine, or to making the port a rendezvous for the Swedish fleet, as docks and every arrangement for six sail of the line, with a proportionate number of frigates and small craft, are included in the plan. One dock is nearly completed, but the whole will require a great deal of

labour, the surface presenting a complete rock. The immediate neighbourhood is said to be particularly favourable to the growth of oaks, and to have been purchased by government in order to plant a future supply. We saw some of immense size, but they were in a state of decay.

The road from thence is good, without presenting any thing remarkable, except a large house belonging to Count Wedel, one of the richest men in Norway. At seven o'clock we arrived at Fredricksveern, got tolerably good lodgings, and were hospitably entertained during the evening by a lieutenant of the navy who has greatly distinguished himself, and has been rewarded with three orders of merit, but cannot get promoted to the rank of captain. The supper was substantial, with plenty of excellent wine, given with genuine hospitality. The next morning Count Rosen, our companion, introduced us to the commandant, Commodore Muller, who gave us permission to visit the arsenal, and insisted upon our dining with him;—although we pleaded our travelling dress as an excuse, there being ladies in his family, he insisted on our company. This is merely a sloop and gun-boat station, founded in 1757 by Frederick V. There is an establishment for cadets and boys; the former are treated with parental kindness, and are put to mess with the different officers. The Norwegian and Swedish marine are combined, though the officers have as yet been but little intermixed. At dinner there

was a large party, with some elegant women, particularly the commodore's lady, a Dane, who, with two of her cousins, sang after dinner a national air with much feeling.

There was also present the Danish commodore Solling, the inventor of the Norwegian pilot-boat, in the establishing of which he met with the greatest obstacles from prejudice, although at least one hundred persons were drowned every year. At last every prejudice and obstacle were conquered, the boats came into general use, and now an accident is never heard of, and he is amply rewarded by the gratitude of the people and the respect of his sovereign. When Norway was ceded to Sweden, the officers had their choice, to remain in the Danish navy, or to join that of Sweden; each acted, as he thought, for his interest, and the two commodores of whom I have been writing, chose different services, without severing their personal friendship. In the evening, after a most hospitable entertainment, we took our leave with regret, in order to proceed to Kongsberg, where we did not arrive till nearly dusk. The next day, in consequence of the badness of the road, and the negligence of our *förebud*, whom we overtook at Hoinnas, we were detained three hours for horses, but the valley in which Hoinnas is situated being beautiful, and finding good entertainment, we did not regret the delay. During the night, as we came across the hills, many parts were nearly trackless, but the

drivers behaved with great kindness and attention, insisting upon our getting into the carts, whenever there was the slightest chance of making progress.

At Kongsberg we found a good post-house. The next day, although Sunday, the furnaces for smelting both iron and silver ore were at work, and we took the opportunity of examining the process; Messrs. Bauman and Stientrop, the former director, and the latter inspector, having given us permission, as well as to descend the mines on Monday. We were much struck with the prodigious power of the bellows, worked by water. The iron ore is ground and smelted as in England. The silver ore contains also copper and sulphur, it is smelted and resmelted till it contains four per cent. of silver; it is then melted with lead, and they thereby obtain an alloy consisting of lead combined with about one-third of silver: the lead is afterwards easily separated, as by a lesser degree of heat it melts and floats at the top. The ore is of four kinds; the first consists of pure native silver; the second of native silver with a portion of stony matrix; the third of a poorer sort; the fourth of the sand and rubbish of the mines. The workmen informed us, that the ore had for some years been very unproductive, but that latterly it had improved. It is said that a mass of native silver was once found in the entire piece, weighing a quarter of a ton.

In the afternoon we visited Labrofoss, a celebrated fall, at three miles' distance, and were amply

repaid for our journey, as a great quantity of timber was floating past with the current, sometimes perhaps at the rate of twenty miles an hour, when, being suddenly arrested by an eddy, the logs would remain nearly stationary, or be whirled round and round without any progression. As soon as the trees are cut down, they are marked and thrown indiscriminately into the river, and at the mouth, or particular places formed for the purpose, they are collected by proper persons stationed at them: of course some never arrive, and others are much damaged by the falls. We saw one which measured seven feet in circumference, and forty-six in length, just suspended on a rock out of the wash of the river, where it would remain till a rise of the flood should again set it *en route*. The bank of the river produced some delicious, wild white and red berries not unlike small grapes.

At dinner we found our finances were so much reduced, that with the greatest economy we should be unable to reach Christiania. Fortunately, in the midst of our dilemma, Mr. Stientrop came to pay us a visit, and at the request of the count he most readily undertook to supply us. The river which runs through the town is called Langen; it has a fine fall, at the lower part of which the spray is so great, that between noon and four o'clock when the sun is out, an uninterrupted rainbow is formed, a phenomenon, said by the Norwegians to be met with only there and at Naples: we were for-

tunate in the day, and did not fail to enter the rainbow.

On Monday, at daylight we mounted our horses and rode as far as was practicable, and then walked to the top of a hill fifteen hundred feet high, in order to be gratified with a view of the Gousta mountains, the tops of which are perpetually covered with snow. We also saw a valley and one of the summer or *nomade* villages, which are formed by the persons who take their flocks over in summer for the purpose of pasture, and where they make their butter, cheese, *&c.* On the approach of winter they return to the towns and villages, where stalls and shelter are provided for the cattle; this accounts for the scarcity of fresh butter, as they are obliged to salt it in order to keep it till it is convenient to send to market. The top of the hill which we ascended was perfectly denuded, although the base and sides were covered with magnificent pines and birch, and it was interesting to trace their hardihood and the struggle for existence between them. As we ascended, they gradually became more dwarfish and less frequent; at last, after having been thinly scattered with various alternations of predominance, the dwarf birch gained the ascendency, and finally left its former companion quite below: still it was not able to reach the summit. Much gratified with our view, which also embraced the town and river with a great extent of country, we descended to the silver mines, of which there

are thirteen open, but only three in active work. In some we saw snow, which, in all probability, is as perpetual as that which we had seen on the Gousta, as the sun never attains a sufficient altitude to dart its rays into the lower regions.

Near the mines a mill for grinding the ore, and a machine for washing it afterwards, are established. By frequent washing, much of the pure silver is deposited, and we saw some tolerably large pieces; but that nothing may be lost, the residue undergoes the smelting process. Upon showing our permission to view the mines, the workmen very readily furnished us with dresses, and conducted us down the principal mine. Each of us had his separate conductor, with a torch made of split pine; mine fortunately could speak English, having served a considerable time on board of the Venerable and Dolphin, British men-of-war. The descent is by forty-six ladders six hundred feet to the gallery, then by seventeen more four hundred feet to the part they are working, and by twelve to the bottom, which cannot be worked for the influx and rising of water. At the depth of one thousand feet we found them hard at work, having just hit upon a vein of silver, which promised to be rich. It always runs vertically east and west, and is discovered by the feel, as it pricks the fingers upon being rubbed. They had heated the part to such a degree, in order to show the vein to the director, (when heated and struck with a sledge hammer it

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falls off in flakes,) that it was with difficulty we could support the temperature till he made his appearance. When he came he was quite delighted with the discovery, none of equal promise having been made for many years. The last produced only thirty-six thousand eight hundred ounces, which were not sufficient to cover the expenses of working the vein. The Danish government had given up the mines and sold all the machinery, afterwards they were worked by a company that failed, and when the cession of Norway became inevitable, they were injured as much as possible.

However, the Swedish government has lately placed the mines under the direction of Mr. Bauman, a very intelligent and able Hanoverian, who has recovered them wonderfully, and fully expects to work them with considerable profit to the crown.

A wonderful gallery has been pierced through the side of the mountain, at the depth of six hundred feet, through which the ore is now transported, instead of being hoisted to the top. Its length is six thousand feet, and it occupied twenty-three years in its completion. It had been commenced in 1792, but during seven years of the time it was discontinued: it had just been opened. The process was most tedious, being entirely by calcination and hammering, which brought the rock off in flakes. Only two men could work at a time; it was commenced both externally and internally, and

to their credit be it recorded, that, upon meeting, there were only two or three feet difference in the level, and none in the direction; it is from six to seven feet wide, and from ten to fifteen high.

At the foot of each ladder, there is a sort of landing-place, merely formed of boards, and the whole is dark, wet, and dismal. Upon making our exit by the gallery, we were like chimney-sweeps, however, we found our clothes at the mouth, and water ready for us. An obelisk is erected to commemorate the commencement of the gallery, under Prince Frederick, and some lines are inscribed of a nature to animate the workmen. Little did he think at its commencement, that the termination would find the country in the hands of Denmark's greatest rival. We afterwards visited a rifle, a sword, and a cloth manufactory, all under the inspection of Mr. Stientrop, and carried on by government, which is bad policy, as it destroys every thing like competition.

Upon calling to take leave of Mr. Bauman, we were introduced to his daughter, a nice young lady, already (according to the custom of the country, which I will more fully explain to you in the latter part of this letter,) affianced, without her affections being engaged.

We left Kongsberg at six in the evening, for Drammen. To the first post-house the road was hilly and bad, and there we were so ill supplied with horses and carts, that the count and myself

were obliged to ride in one cart, upon a sack of hay, while my brother had a steed that would not have been surpassed by Rozinante. It became so dark that we could not see the country distinctly, but it appeared prettily diversified with wood, water, and cultivation. The roads improving, we arrived at midnight at a large post-house, where we got most miserably lodged, and in the morning, were kept waiting from six to eight for breakfast, they assuring us the whole time, that it was in preparation, though it consisted of nothing but tea, bread and butter.

The town is large and of good appearance; it lies on both sides of the river, with a respectable bridge of communication. We remarked a good many merchant vessels, and dépôts of timber, besides large rafts.

On leaving Drammen for Christiania, you enter a valley highly cultivated and well inhabited, which, from its superiority over the rest of the country, is called Paradise, afterwards there is a very long and steep hill to ascend; from the summit the view is extensive and imposing. We afterwards passed some saw-mills and iron-works of Baron Wedels, and arrived here at two o'clock, having been most terribly jolted. The cars were particularly bad, so much so, that, during the last stage, my brother was obliged to ride with his back to the horse, although the whole interest of the scene lay in front; this was the more annoying, because in one or two instances,

when the scene was less interesting, we had been supplied with that unique, light vehicle, peculiar to Norway, called a *cariole*, which may indeed be considered the gig of the Norwegian gentlemen; it is capable, however, of containing but one person who must drive himself. Our tour was two hundred and sixty miles, and the cost seventy-seven specie dollars, or seven pounds sterling, including every expense, for three persons during six days. In Count Rosen we found a most excellent, intelligent travelling companion: he is a lieutenant in the Swedish navy, and aid-de-camp to Count Sandels, the viceroy of Norway. He had recently served on board of the Iphigenia, English frigate, under the command of Captain Hyde Parker, in the Mediterranean. The ninth and tenth of this month were passed in a delightful excursion over the Krock Leven mountain, by a most extraordinary and picturesque pass, to Honenfosen, where we found excellent accommodation for all our party (and we had three ladies with us), at a house beautifully situated at the confluence of two rivers, over which a grotto and garden are laid out with great taste. A fir-tree of twelve feet in circumference, with an ash growing out of it, added not a little to the interest already excited. On our return we called at a clergyman's, in order to see a print of Anna Colbiernsen, who, by stratagem, arrested the progress of a Swedish force, and apprized the garrison of Kongsberg that it was advancing in order to plunder the dépôt.

The approach to Krock Leven was particularly fine, and it appeared quite inaccessible; indeed, we nearly found it so, for it was only with the greatest difficulty we could urge the horses on with the empty carriages*. We were much fatigued; but, fortunately, half way up, we were refreshed by a running stream, and fine, wild raspberries. When we came to the summit, a most extraordinary scene presented itself, nothing more nor less than the consul's carriage (which had kept the lead), with the horses' heads downwards, and his coachman thrashing the driver most unmercifully. We ran instantly to protect the poor fellow, but my brother, seeing they were both Norwegians, said, "Leave them alone, you may depend, as it is Norse against Norse, all is right." Upon inquiry, we found the fellow had left his horses on arriving at the top, and had gone into a house to refresh himself, when they, certainly contrary to all expectation after the fatigue of mounting, had taken to their heels and run off, and it was only by the ex-

* It may be remarked of the Swedish horses, that in ascending a hill, it is absolutely necessary to keep them going by means of the whip, &c., as they will otherwise allow the carriage to run back. The Norwegian horses, on the contrary, if they stop half way up, always stand to the weight, and never allow it to get the better of them, They are a much finer race than those of Sweden, small but willing; generally of a light brown, with a black mark on the back. When at speed, they can only be stopped by a noise of the lips, which they obey in a moment, although before they have nearly cut the hand to pieces in attempting to hold them in.

ertion of the consul's son, who actively mounted a peasant's horse, which happened to be passing, that they were overtaken and brought back. At the post-house we had ordered dinner to be prepared for us, and knowing there was a fine trout stream near, had desired there might be some fish for dinner. To our horror, on arriving, nothing was prepared, and the only reason given was, that not being able to procure fish, as desired, they had not thought it necessary to prepare any thing at all; however, as there were plenty of flour, eggs, and milk, the ladies prepared pancakes in abundance, and the novelty of the repast kept us all in good humour. We reached home at dusk, much pleased with our excursion.

On Sunday, the viceroy did us the honour to invite us to a grand dinner-party. We sat down sixty; the dinner was served dish by dish, each person had a bottle of common French wine placed by him, and superior wines and punch were handed about occasionally. Towards the end of dinner his excellency and the whole party drank us a hearty welcome (this is invariably the custom when strangers dine the first time at Norwegian parties). After coffee, various modes of amusement were adopted; we joined the countess and a party of ladies in an aquatic excursion; the evening finished with cards and supper, served on small tables placed by the players. On retiring, whoever had played cards had a dollar to pay for each pack! This is very general in the

north. The viceroy, of course a Swede, is a remarkably gentlemanly, fine-looking fellow, a great personal favourite of the king, and has particularly distinguished himself in the wars with Russia, although they have always terminated unfavourably to his country: the countess, and the ladies of his family, were also very pleasant. We had this day an opportunity of observing particularly the custom before alluded to, of affiancing persons long before marriage. It takes place, not only with those of tender age, but with grown up people, who plight their faith, but delay the ceremony sometimes many years, till circumstances favour their marriage, such as an expected advancement, success in commerce, or the death of an old relation from whom they have had some expectancy. During the whole of this time they are openly received in all company as lovers, and are never separated, nor is the lady allowed to bestow a smile on any one else, and the gentleman is expected to devote himself to her. There is no impropriety in their driving out in the same carriage, or in their close and frequent association. Not being sufficiently acquainted with the etiquette to be observed towards these everlasting wooers, I committed a serious breach of it; on entering the yacht after dinner, a vacant place was left in the cabin between the countess and her sister, who has been for three years engaged to his excellency's secretary (waiting till he should obtain a higher situation), and with whom, during the whole

of the day, the love-scene had passed. Seeing the vacancy, I thought that gallantry obliged me to occupy it, and I had not been long in possession before the secretary came, and finding it occupied, for it had been left for him, he appeared much annoyed, and ultimately obliged the lady to quit her seat, and place herself at his side: it was not till afterwards that I found how seriously I had transgressed. There were three other couples at dinner similarly situated, and I must say, I never saw anybody who appeared so completely worn down as the gentlemen: the ladies certainly seemed to have the best of the bargain. The weather in general has been fine and temperate, but on Thursday we had a most violent storm of thunder, lightning, and rain, which lasted for some hours.

You will probably expect some account from the capital, of the general feeling as to the late annexation of this country to Sweden, which, when dispassionately viewed, must be allowed to be the most advantageous union that could have happened for the Norwegians. But the manner in which it was conducted has hurt their national pride, and they vent all their spleen on England, because, they say, the most heroic courage which they were about to display in defence of their independence, was rendered useless by starvation, brought on by our blockading squadron, but for which they would have defied the whole force of Sweden and Denmark. You are aware that, when by the treaty of Kiel, Norway was ceded to Sweden, Prince Chris-

tian of Denmark, the viceroy, immediately declared the independence of Norway, and accepted the crown according to a constitution sufficiently in favour of liberty, drawn up at the moment by the principal citizens assembled in diet. This constitution and independence he and they swore to maintain with the last drop of their blood. But most unluckily, at the very instant of taking the oath, an officer from the present king, then crown prince, arrived to claim their obedience to the treaty of Kiel, and threatened them with invasion in case of refusal. This message is said to have completely cured Prince Christian of all taste for reigning over any other country than Denmark, and he instantly sought personal safety. But the citizens vowed to resist, to the last moment, and sent back defiance to the crown prince, who was just on the Swedish side of the ferry at Swinsund, over which I have already described the passage and its inaccessible bank, particularly on the Norwegian side. In spite of this heroic defiance and determination, the crown prince held both in such contempt, that he actually crossed the ferry with cavalry, and the whole country submitted without his losing a single man, whereas two hundred soldiers, or even fifty, if properly posted, ought to defend the passage of Swinsund for ever, against an army of twenty thousand men. It is to cover this shameful conduct that they launch out so strongly against the interference of England, and attribute their subjugation to starvation.

Norway, in a military, indeed in every point of

view, is a possession of the highest consequence to Sweden, but more particularly by increasing her power of defence, and by placing her in a state to protect herself against any invasion from Russia, without fearing, as she always formerly did, that Denmark would take the opportunity to invade her at the critical moment from Norway; for, as is usually the case with all neighbouring nations, a deadly hatred and jealousy exist between the Swedes and Danes, rendering each ready to take advantage of every favourable opportunity, however unjustly, to humble the other. By this union of Norway with Sweden, there cannot be a doubt that, as one government, the interests of both, in a political point of view, will be considerably promoted, as well as the happiness and prosperity of the inhabitants. Norway may still be said, with the exception of being governed by a Swedish viceroy, to be perfectly independent of Sweden, except for offices of mutual benefit, as the Norwegians possess the constitution which they had framed for themselves; and as they have steadily resisted some alterations proposed by the king. This constitution is very democratic, and is framed with such a jealousy of aristocracy, that although there are only about three noble families in the country, yet, after the death of the present possessors of the titles, and of any son born before the date of it, the titles are to become obsolete. The Storthing, or parliament, can, by right, only meet once in three years, but it is in the power of the

king to convoke it at pleasure. Norway is naturally a poor country, possessing little besides her fisheries, mines, and forests, not producing sufficient corn for home consumption; therefore all foreign productions and manufactures are procured by barter. Until our late (I fear impolitic) acts for the protection of the Canadian timber trade, it was to England that the Norwegian looked for the necessaries or superfluities of life; and the truth of this observation is strongly marked by the fact, that in every house you enter, the furniture and appurtenances which are not new, are invariably English, while all which bear the stamp of recent acquisition, are as invariably German or French. The duties on Norwegian timber are now made so high, in order to protect the Canada trade, that it is quite impossible for the Norwegians to find a sale in our markets; and these imposts are consequently impolitic, because they drive the Norwegian to seek from other countries, where he can sell his timber, those articles for which he before exclusively looked to England: added to which, this system weakens the attachment which they have invariably felt towards us. The population of Norway is variously stated at from seven hundred and fifty thousand to nine hundred thousand: the former number is probably the most correct. The national arms, a lion holding a sword, are now introduced into the upper canton of the old Swedish flag.

Literature has long been at a low ebb in Norway,

but a university has lately been established here, with some able professors, who have turned their attention to the improvement of the public library, which has long existed in a neglected state. It contains between eighty and one hundred thousand volumes, mostly duplicates from Denmark and Stockholm. The revenue, for its support, consists of one hundred tons of corn *per annum*.

The military academy is considered a good one; the cadets, like the naval cadets at Fredricksveern, live in the families of the officers. The fortress here is very strong from its situation, but it is much neglected: the view from it is very fine. The harbour is so land-locked, that its appearance is that of a fine extensive lake, ornamented with islands, and surrounded by bold and picturesque mountains. Here we are again distressed by the sight of the heavily-ironed malefactors. We have had the good fortune to become acquainted with Major Carpelan, of the Swedish Engineers; he has taken some very correct views in Norway, which he has published, and to him is to be attributed all the topographical knowledge which the world has recently gained of these kingdoms.

He is now employed on the great military road which is forming between the two countries. It appears to be the policy of the king, to throw down all obstacles to an open communication between them, as, in case of dissension, the Norwegians would be inaccessible in their fortresses, and could at any

time carry desolation into the more open country of Sweden.

We start to-morrow in order to visit the canal which is cutting between the Wenern and Wettern lakes. We shall not leave this without much regret in parting from those who have uniformly treated us with kindness.

In this neighbourhood there is a good deal of garden and orchard-ground, and I never saw finer vegetables, or a more abundant crop of apples, pears, and plums. Of the former there is a peculiar species, called the glass, or transparent apple; it is so delicate that you are obliged to watch its daily progress towards ripeness, and to pluck it directly it arrives at that point, for it will not remain in perfection more than twelve hours. There is a tolerably good botanical garden near the town, with pleasant walks; it contains a great variety of pinks, cloves, and carnations. A bouquet can be bought for two shillings.

The Norwegians in general are a hardy, open-hearted, honest race. The men have particularly good and white teeth, like perfect ivory; the women, although not strikingly handsome, are sufficiently good-looking, and possess every requisite domestic virtue. When young, the children all have remarkably light hair almost approaching to white, but which, with age, assumes a darker hue.

The climate, in the southern part of Norway, is not extremely rigorous, as may be gathered from

the following proverb, applied to the 25th of February, St. Matthew's day.

" St. Matthew breaks the ice; if there is no ice, he makes ice," which certainly implies, that it is possible they have been up to that day without severe frost, or, that if the winter has been severe, it will break up about that period. The capital stands in fifty-nine degrees fifty minutes north latitude, and eleven degrees thirty-eight minutes east longitude. North Bergen, on the west coast, has a population of nineteen thousand souls, and is considered a very flourishing town, both from its vast exports of deals and its fishery, which supplies the north of Europe with the well-known stork fish, so much used in all their merchant vessels. It is cured in the sun, without the aid of salt, and becomes as hard as a deal board. Before it can be used it is obliged to be bruised with a heavy hammer, and afterwards well soaked.

LETTER VI.

Magnor—Kongswinger—Strand—Hogboda—Carlstad — Lakes Wenern and Wettern—Hastrop—Christinehamn—Canal—Rodesund —Halna—Friasbrick—Orebro—Koping—Kalback—Stromsholm —Westeras—Enkoping—Lake Malaren—Tibble—Barkarby—Stockholm.

Stockholm, 24th August, 1822.

We arrived here last evening, and have fortunately found clean and good lodgings at the London hotel, kept by an English woman.

We saw nothing of the city till we approached the barrier, where the serjeant of the guard merely looked at the passport, and took our names down. We were much surprised at a piece of dandyism in him, which in England would excite the greatest contempt: such as was attempted to be thrown upon an officer of the life guards, at the time of the removal of the remains of the late queen; in fact, for want of natural he wore painted mustaches.

At the custom-house, a few paces further on, they asked two or three questions, and hinted at a douceur; we gave a dollar, and passed on by the observatory and some wooden houses, till we got into the main street, when a church and several large buildings burst upon us, in a confused but not unpleasant manner, indeed, in a way to give a favourable impression of the city. This impression increased as we advanced, for at one point, it seemed

to present all the most striking features of the most romantic towns of Europe.

But as you are assured of our being well lodged, I shall resume the tour from where my last left off, just on the point of quitting the capital of Norway. Our bill at Karsar's was moderate; he is the man with whom the English nobleman before alluded to went to law on account of what he considered an exorbitant charge, but being cast in every court, he was ultimately obliged to pay the bill and seventy pounds costs; for, as in England, law in Norway is not given gratuitously. The facts are, that the avant courier of the noblemen arrived, vaunting the extraordinary riches and consequence of his employer, and insisting upon having the whole house to accommodate him and his suite, and he would hear of no excuse. In consequence, Karsar was obliged to turn out all his lodgers, and relinquish a *table d'hôte* which he kept, and thus run the risk of losing their future custom. The nobleman arrived and remained a week, during the greater part of which time he constantly dined out, but when going away, a very considerable stock of provisions had been prepared and packed for him; on the bill being demanded, the provisions were charged, in the gross sum of one hundred and forty-one pounds sterling. This of course was resisted, and the items desired to be produced or specified. Karsar very coolly reduced one half of the charge, but said, he did not know any thing about items, and all he knew was,

that with seventy pounds he should be very little in pocket by the nobleman's visit, for if he did not eat, he prevented others from eating. Twenty-five pounds were now offered as an equivalent, which Karsar would not hear of, and the nobleman was ill enough advised to refuse payment, and to desire the Consul to resist the charge in every court, till it came to the highest tribunal. This has been done with the result I have already stated, so that the nobleman had not only the reduced bill to pay, but law expenses, which brought it to the original sum of one hundred and forty pounds.

At the lower part of the city, which is narrow and filthy, there is a very large general dépôt of plank. Last year it took fire, and burnt for fourteen days, producing a degree of heat at a considerable distance almost beyond belief: many merchants were ruined by the conflagration. The day before our departure, a fine Norwegian ship arrived from Lisbon, with salt and some oranges; they were sold at eight pence a piece, so that foreign luxuries are dearly paid for here.

We left Christiania at noon on the 15th instant, passing through a hilly country with bad roads, and crossing several rivers. We quitted Norway by the custom-house at Magnor, where they merely verified the receipt, for the duty we had paid on our carriage at Helsingburg. During our journey we visited the fortress of Kongswinger, situated upon an eminence which commands the river, but it is

itself commanded on the land side. Here we were again distressed by the inhumanly ironed, begging, or rather vending, malefactors. At this point we had reached our highest northern latitude in Norway, sixty degrees fifteen minutes north, and twelve degrees thirty minutes east longitude, and soon after crossed the Vrangs, a noble river, but rendered useless for the purposes of navigation, by the rapids with which it abounds. The country about it is rich and highly cultivated: the trees are small, and had been so all the way from Christiania; indeed, the only places where we have remarked large trees in Norway are pines and firs at Moss, Kongsberg, and Drammen, and oaks at Haton. The wooden houses are built of logs, squared and neatly mortised at the coins, and chintzed with moss, they also use the bark of the birch-tree to preserve them from the dry rot. The better sort are lined with deals, and painted or covered with an ochre, procured from the metal foundries. They almost all stand upon a brick or stone foundation, without any apparent binding to connect them, so that they look as if a breeze of wind would blow them off.

In the country, each house, at the distance of about thirty yards from it, has a magazine for the winter provisions; they are built in the same manner, but stand upon wooden pillars, to protect them from rats and other animals. The approach is by steps separated about two feet and a half from them: the winter's store generally consists of bread made of

rye, pease, or oats, salted and smoked meats, sausages, puddings, vegetables, *&c.*, all of which are housed by the middle of October. In summer, the kitchens are also detached from the houses, which, I must say, are generally kept clean and neat. The country people wear loose coats of coarse, brown, woollen cloth, tastily enough made, with small wings on the shoulders; some carry a large knife by their side, in a leathern case, but they do not, as in Sweden, wear boots. Before a man can become a merchant, he must qualify himself, and be able to speak at least one foreign language, all of which is done with a view to keep up respectability of character, and in which we have not found them deficient during our sojourn amongst them. With sentiments of esteem we left Norway, and entered once more upon Swedish territory, the approach to which had been sensibly marked by the improvement of the roads, and when once fairly entered, we found the old, agreeable gravel, accompanied on each side by the less agreeable base rock; but we have passed through the garden of Norway, and must not judge of the whole from the more fertile part we have traversed.

At Strand we found a good supper prepared for us at a clean house, which had even been honoured by the king and prince Oscar; in consequence of which, the walls were hung round with miserable daubs of them, and the landlady was most loquacious in their praise.

The next day, having ordered a middaggen to be

prepared for us at Hogboda, we were not quite so fortunate, the house being exceedingly dirty, and nothing provided for us, there being only one egg to be had. We determined to take the chance of the next post-house, and my brother remarking that we could not be worse off, I replied, unless they should not have even one egg, which literally proved to be the case, so that we were obliged to have recourse to our magazine. But we were much disgusted by the woman of the house, taking, immediately before us, that means of divesting her child's head of intruders, which is so common in the streets of Lisbon, Naples, and other southern countries, but which we had never before seen practised in these northern regions. To the surprise of the woman, we insisted upon her taking up, though unwillingly, a position where she should be at least out of our sight, though we thought, even after her removal, that our ears were occasionally saluted by a crack. After passing Strand, the country became diversified with lakes, wood, and cultivated fields; the trees were of a larger and more varied description, pines, fir, birch, and alder; the two former six and seven feet in circumference, and seventy feet high, but the general size is not more than from two to three feet in circumference. Many had fallen down from the paucity of soil, and one had literally entwined its roots round a stone which it had torn up with it. The men wear loose black coats, with straight collars and some embroidery, and

look very warm, the sun being exceedingly powerful, though the thermometer did not range beyond seventy-two degrees. We arrived at Carlstad in the evening, and entered the town by a bridge. The streets are broad and long, containing some very good houses, many of them being three stories high, which we had never before seen in any houses built of wood; notwithstanding which, every thing appeared dull, and trade seemed to be at a stand. Carlstad is at the northern extremity of the Wenern lake, but standing in a bight, an extent of water is not perceived even from the steeple, which we ascended in hopes of an extensive view, and, perhaps, of seeing vessels sailing in this Mediterranean. Although disappointed, we were surprised with the bird's eye view of the town, the tops of the houses being covered with sod, which cannot be perceived from the street. This gave them at once quite an altered appearance, not unlike a continued garden. This is the first time we have not overtaken our *förebud;* he had been sent on by Count Rosen twelve hours before us, with a route as far as Carlstad, which is the chief town of Wermeland, and a bishopric; the governor of the province also resides there: it was founded by Charles IX. The population at present is about three thousand.

Our intention was to proceed to Hasleror, and from there examine the canal; but soon after leaving Tave, the canal suddenly broke upon us, exhibiting a scene of activity we were little prepared for, and

still less were we prepared to meet a Scotchman, who advised us, instead of proceeding as we intended, rather to continue along the line of the canal to Hastrop, where we should find the general, and good accommodation. We followed his advice, and were well received by a Mr. Barrack, a Scotch superintendent, who provided us with every thing necessary for passing a comfortable night. After leaving Carlstad, a remarkable change took place in the dress of the peasants; they all wear a long leathern apron, and, of course, appear as if they were shoemakers, blacksmiths, coopers, or as if they belonged to some other trade requiring such an appendage. The first stage, I could not help lamenting that we had taken some tradesman from his work: the inhabitants of every district have their peculiar dress. Near Christinehamn, we passed two very good houses, more decidedly like gentlemen's seats, than any we had seen in the country. I make these, which might otherwise appear trivial, remarks, that you may form some idea of the state of society and of the country, which, unlike England, has hardly any of the neat houses, and gentlemen's seats so frequently to be met with there. Saturday and Sunday were devoted to the inspection of the canal; it is intended to complete the chain of communication with the Baltic, through the West Gothland and the lakes Wenern and Wettern, to the Trollhättan canal. This branch was begun in 1808, and is expected to be opened in the course of the next

month, by the king passing through, from the Wettern to the Wenern. Count Platen has had the general direction of the work, assisted by a number of Scotchmen, sent over from the Caledonian canal by Mr. T——, who has the chief merit of the undertaking, having struck out the line and levels: the history of his being employed, and of his reward is rather singular.

A Swedish major, wishing to erect some mills, and not being sufficiently acquainted with the combination of wheels, determined upon a trip to Edinburgh, and upon landing at Leith, accidentally got into conversation with Mr. T——, who was just starting for an inspection of the Caledonian canal, which, interesting the Swede, he offered him a seat in the carriage, and thus an intimacy commenced. Some years afterwards, the major was called upon to strike the line of this canal, but being diffident of his ability, he strongly recommended the employment of his friend, Mr. T——. Overtures were made, and Mr. T—— twice came to Sweden, first in 1810, and again in 1813, when he put every thing in train, and sent out overseers, since which he has not returned, but Count Platen has been in constant correspondence with him, and nothing has been done without his advice. When Mr. T—— had completed all the plans and was about to quit the country, the Swedish government inquired if he would not prefer an honorary to a pecuniary reward, as if he did, the king would invest him with

the Order of Vasa. Mr. T—— replied, that he was a civilian, and money was what he worked for; they, therefore, gave him a thousand pounds, and when they some time afterwards distributed honorary rewards to the Swedes employed in the canal, they were obliged to include him in the highest order, as, without his assistance, nothing could have been done. The undertaking is certainly great, for although there is only a difference of one hundred and sixty-two feet in the level, yet it has to be mostly cut through rock: in the space of nine miles, there are nineteen locks, one hundred and twenty feet by twenty-five and a half, with ten feet fall; the depth of water throughout the canal is ten feet: the gates of the locks are of cast iron. The first pair came from England; and it is only with the greatest difficulty they have been able to cast the others in Sweden, although the country produces the finest iron in the world. Nor without the assistance of the Scotch overseers, could the plans have been carried into effect: this they have the candour to acknowledge. The cost of labour is very trifling, because it is entirely performed by the military. In May, a division is marched down under proper officers, commanded by a general, as if for field duties, and it continues to work as long as the weather is open, generally till October, and the next year a fresh party are brought, so that by the time they become useful, their tour is over.

At Wenern, where the canal terminates by a

basin and dock for twelve vessels, defended from the violence of the sea by cassoon piers, the officers employed had formed themselves into a mess, and had the goodness to invite us to dine with them. Each commenced with a glass of corn brandy, sufficient to deprive a novice of all power to do justice to the dinner (we therefore only sipped our potion). The meal consisted of cold salmon, blood-puddings, boiled milk and bread, and finished with very nice, light flour-drops, eaten with currant jelly. Swedish porter in abundance was drunk; but, with the exception of the snaps, they had neither wine nor spirits. Among the party was a Swedish gentleman, who had long been a slave at Algiers, and at length was relieved only by the generous and gallant attack of Lord Exmouth, whose just eulogium it was delightful for us to hear from the mouth of a grateful Swede. The room at the inn where we dined was, as is often the case, rendered somewhat disgusting by the general apparel of the master and mistress being hung round it on pegs. The general, at head-quarters, was very attentive to us, and boasted much of having served in the Spanish army during the memorable siege of Gibraltar. He sent his *aide-de-camp* with us to the fortress of Wanas, constructing on a peninsula running into the Wettern lake. It is said that Bernadotte has bestowed all his military skill upon the plan, and has employed the best officers, both Swedish and Norwegian, in the execution, so that it is expected to be a *chef-*

d'œuvre. It will be capable of containing a garrison of seven thousand soldiers, and of protecting an encampment under its walls of fifty thousand troops of all arms; its front runs quite across the isthmus: the lake is fifteen miles wide. There are various causes assigned for its erection; but the ostensible one is, that it is required as a point *d'appui* for the canal, or in case of the Russians invading the kingdom from Finland, though there are persons who do not scruple to say it is built that, in case the present dynasty should be disturbed, there might be a place of refuge and resistance for the reigning prince. With such strong and numerous instances of the restless disposition of the Swedish nobles under any family, I do not think the latter reason improbable or imprudent. The canal and fortress are a source of some difference between the king and the houses of assembly; the latter considering the expense far beyond the utility, while his majesty considers the expected benefit to be derived from them to commerce and security far beyond the cost, which is annually five hundred and sixty thousand rix dollars. Since the commencement, five million five hundred thousand rix dollars have been expended, certainly an immense sum for so poor a country. In consequence of this heavy expenditure, every seductive art is had recourse to in order to induce the houses of assembly to vote the necessary sums to carry on these national works.

We did not arrive at Rodesund, the village near

the fortress, till midnight, and were in despair of procuring either supper or beds; but to our surprise we found the former just put on table, and the latter prepared for two travellers, who, to our still greater surprise, quietly resigned the whole in our favour.

After leaving Halna we, for the first time, experienced a deep sandy road. Our coachman having passed the proper turning, was called to by the guide, and in attempting to turn the carriage short round, overset it, as might naturally have been expected, and we were both for some time, in a very awkward predicament, for, had the horses struggled, we must have been severely injured. Fortunately we extricated ourselves; but no sooner were the horses unharnessed than two of them took to their heels and ran off. Night was coming on, and our servant was despatched for assistance, with which, in about an hour, he returned, and the carriage was put on its wheels without any serious injury. However, in consequence of the loss of our horses we were obliged to walk, and had a tedious task to arrive at Friasbrick, where, in consequence of this delay, horses had been kept waiting for us beyond the time allowed by law, and we had, for the first time, to pay forfeit, but which was not very oppressive. At Wrestorp we found a large clean posthouse, and, for the second time since landing at Helsingburg, an excellent middaggen. Between it and Blackstad the trees were of a larger size, and more varied in kind than we had been in the habit

of seeing. Oak, beech, birch, and ash appeared to vie with the pine and fir.

We passed the evening and slept at Orebro, with which we were much pleased. It is a town of considerable size, having, like most Swedish towns, straight streets, spacious market-place, and perfect regularity of wooden and plastered houses. One of the latter was extremely large, and was surrounded by water, and flanked by four towers. Here the Diet of the different orders of Sweden was held, on the vacancy caused by the death of the Crown Prince Augustenberg (supposed to have been the victim of intrigue), who had been elected on the deposition of Gustavus IV., when Bernadotte, his present majesty, then a French marshal, was chosen successor to the throne.

The women, who are by far superior in good looks and dress to any we had met with, seemed conscious of their superiority, and by no means displeased with the admiration and homage which a pretty face and neat toilette never fail to excite. We now felt the extreme inconvenience of a *förebud*, for otherwise we would willingly have continued two or three days in this delightful town, the situation of which is as near as possible in the centre of the kingdom, and we wished to remain, in order to study and enjoy the genuine Swedish character, which must be found here uncontaminated. Necessity has no law; and we were reluctantly obliged to depart, and soon came to a country more than usually wild; on all

sides we observed masses of stone, some nearly equal in size to the one we had remarked near Carlshamn, which seemed to have been thrown together in different positions by some convulsion of nature. But when we came to Glanshamma the scenery changed, as if by enchantment, presenting a highly-cultivated country, diversified with hill, dale, wood, water, and good-looking habitations, and enlivened by the sight of the husbandmen at work in the fields, and their wives preparing a winter's store. The post-house had an excellent garden, with flowers, bees, *&c. &c.*; the female servants were busily employed in preserving fruit, berries, *&c.*, and the manner of preserving apples particularly attracted my attention. They are skinned and quartered, and then half baked, which produces a disagreeable, shrivelled appearance; but they retain their flavour, and in this state can be kept any length of time. They had also an amazing quantity of river craw-fish.

At Arboga we expected to be able to embark our carriage, and proceed to Stockholm by a steam-boat; but we found that, from the shallowness of the water, they were unable to take carriages on board till they reached Westeras, on the lake Malaren: we therefore relinquished the idea. Arboga, at a distance, has an imposing effect, and it is, indeed, a considerable town, with some commerce, and, with what we had not before observed, except at Carlscrona, namely, two churches. We therefore expected at least good entertainment, but were miserably disap-

pointed; for although we gave them two hours to prepare our dinner, they did not absolutely provide enough, and we were obliged, in this large town, to have recourse to our magazine, and on leaving it we were accompanied by a shirtless, beggarly-looking fellow of a driver, the first instance of the kind we had met with. In general the drivers are too warmly clad for summer, at least in the coat way; the other part of the dress not corresponding, being a pair of white linen small clothes and boots, without stockings. The women have of late appeared without shoes or stockings, a most disgusting practice. The white, ivory-looking teeth of the men, which we had observed from Norway nearly to this place, have entirely disappeared.

At Kalback we slept, and found good accommodation at a detached post-house; and in the morning we proceeded to visit the palace of Stromsholm, the situation of which is pretty, and it possesses some of the largest timber I have seen in Sweden, particularly limes and oaks. There are two magnificent avenues of the former leading to the palace, and of the latter we measured some fourteen feet in circumference, although very nearly in the latitude of sixty, where Van Buch asserts that they cease to grow. The palace was built by the Queen Eleanor, and is famous as the place of confinement of Gustavus IV., when deposed in 1809. It is sometimes visited both by the king and Prince Oscar, for whom there are apartments but miserably furnished; it however

contains a few good paintings, but its most valuable appendage is the royal stud, consisting of about two hundred and sixty horses, with an establishment of forty-six keepers. The superintendent was particularly civil. Although it lies a little out of the high-road, we were amply repaid for the *detour* we were obliged to make in visiting it,

Long before the town could be perceived, we were gratified with a sight of the steeple of Westeras, which is the highest in the kingdom. The cathedral contains a number of curious monuments, principally those of the bishops; but that which excites most interest is the tomb of King Eric XIV. whose history, and the cruelties practised upon him by his brother, after he had succeeded in deposing him, are well related by Coxe. The town carries on a considerable trade with Stockholm, and by means of its situation upon the Malaren, transports annually to the capital the productions of all the neighbouring mines.

After leaving Westeras, we passed through a flat, and, in many places, rocky country, with very little wood; and as the crops were off, and the land just ploughed, the appearance was very mournful. At Nyquarn we observed the Duke of Devonshire's name written on the box placed for receiving charitable donations, from which we concluded that his Grace had contributed liberally. These boxes are of frequent occurrence, and have generally a small shed placed over them, and beneath the shed

a picture representing the figure of a mendicant, in the attitude of supplicating alms. The honesty of the Swede is quite proverbial; and it is said that these boxes are never plundered, and, indeed, that the crime of robbery of any description is almost unknown in the country.

Upon mounting a hill we remarked a very fine tumulus, the first we had seen since leaving Denmark. The same flat country continued to Enkoping, a miserable town, where we arrived at six o'clock. The church stands upon a hill, from whence nothing but a flat country in every direction can be discovered. The windmills, as at Carlscrona, have lath sails.

We left Enkoping at six o'clock, on the 23rd. It was a most beautiful morning; indeed, we have had nothing but the most delightful weather since our arrival in Sweden, or, I may say with equal truth, since our leaving England. We occasionally skirted the Malaren, of which we had some beautiful views, and saw two or three good houses, particularly one belonging to a Mr. Smeaton, a Scotchman, with the grounds in excellent order. At a bridge thrown across a small lake there is an obelisk, to commemorate its having been built by a certain count. These obelisks are invariably erected wherever the slightest benefit has been conferred on the public.

Although I have not before noticed it, we have frequently passed land cultivated by soldiers; their

houses are uniform, and their names, regiment, and company, are marked on them: they have a neat garden railed in, and the whole is termed a *bostillar*. When called upon service, their neighbours are obliged to cultivate the land for them, and assist their wives and children. Near Westeras, and in the neighbourhood of Stockholm, the tobacco plant is a good deal cultivated. At Barkarby, the last stage before arriving at the capital, the *förebud* was waiting for us, and we intended to relieve his box of the log it had brought from Götheborg, and this in as secret a way as possible, that the trick we had played might not be discovered; but women in Sweden, equally with those in other countries, are endowed with curiosity, and we found it impossible to elude that of the post-master's wife, who appeared much struck with the singular contents of our box, and to be lost in admiration, when we told her it came from England, but that, as a particular favour, we would give it to her, which we did, and wrote a memorandum on it, when she deposited it in her *sanctum sanctorum*.

In a former letter, I mentioned that we had been told, that, on the high road to Stockholm, there was no occasion for a *förebud*, as horses were always ready at the post-houses. Since leaving Enkoping, we have found this to be the case; and the regulation produces a very demoralizing effect, for, if the horses are not wanted, the drivers remain four and twenty hours in idleness, drinking and gambling:

at Tibble we witnessed a disgraceful scene of that description.

The being obliged to provide horses for the post, is considered a very great hardship by the farmers, particularly during harvest; as those days on which it is their turn to provide them, should the horses even not be required, their labour is lost, for they cannot be sent far from the house, and if they do work in its vicinity, and they should be wanted for posting, the poor animals are of course injured by the additional or double labour. Added to this, the recompense is by no means adequate, as you may suppose, when I tell you, that with three horses, and sometimes as many drivers, we have travelled at the rate of sixpence an English mile.

As we approached the capital, the roads became rather cut up from the traffic; but in general, throughout Sweden, they are like the walks of a gentleman's park; the surface being fine gravel, but where it is procured from I cannot tell, as we have not anywhere observed a gravel pit.

The following is the manner in which the roads are made: a trench is dug on each side, and then layers of branches of trees and earth are placed alternately, till a proper height is obtained, when the whole is staked up, and covered with gravel; it is then marked off at proper distances, with the names of the farmers who are to keep it in order, and a surveyor frequently attends to see they do not neglect their portions. It was very seldom we

met any part the least out of repair; but, as Reichard observes, there are some sandy ones, as we experienced when our carriage was upset, which verified the truth of his observation, that, "The beautiful roads are most agreeable for travelling in Sweden; those in England are not everywhere so well kept, and the care which the Swedes take of them is more general even to the cross-roads. There are some few sandy ones, which, in truth, are not better than similar ones in other countries. On the beautiful high roads which I have described, one can travel in every kind of carriage."

But the following remark of Van Buch is not equally correct, for we were always obliged to pay the uttermost farthing. "On ne m'a jamais demandé d'argent pour le passage, excepté sur des ponts considerables. On nous fit passer une rivière sans nous demander le moindre paiement."

Stockholm is exceedingly badly off for hotels, there being only a French one, besides the London, at which we are lodged. We therefore consider ourselves particularly fortunate, both in point of comfort and situation. With respect to the latter, this hotel is not to be surpassed in any city, being on the quay of the Ridderholm, commanding a view of the Skeppsholm or admiralty, and the extensive harbour, filled with merchant vessels and boats, presenting a pleasing scene of bustle and commercial activity, an agreeable contrast with the dull monotony of the Danish capital, over which it has

in every respect, a most decided advantage, at least as far as externals can be judged of. But we are just going to deliver some letters, and you shall in due time hear an opinion founded upon further experience.

LETTER VII.

Stockholm, Booksellers, Public and Private Libraries—Shops, Streets, and Squares—Shoe Market—Butchers—Palace, Opera House—Change of Dynasty—Interview with Bernadotte—Conflagrations—House of Nobles—Statues, Obelisks, Churches, Mausoleum—Artillery Dépôt—Naval and Military Academies, Barracks, Arsenal—Flotilla, Russian Trophies, Swedish Navy—Foundling Hospital—Museum—Antiquities—The Mint—Dalecarlians—Environs of Stockholm.

Stockholm, 8th September, 1822.

As Dr. CLARKE very justly observes, "One of the first things it is natural to seek for, in arriving at any place on the continent, is a bookseller's shop: but the booksellers here have no catalogues, or if any thing of this kind be produced, it is written wholly in the Swedish language; and with regard to the dealers themselves, never were persons of their profession so little likely to recommend their wares as the booksellers of Stockholm. If a customer enters, they rise not from their seats to assist him in looking over the dusty lumber of their warehouses, or, if they were disposed to show him this civility, the search would be vain, because the books not being bound, but lying in quires, and confusedly mixed together, can only be regarded as so many reams of paper in a stationer's shop." This is so decidedly the case, and their collections are so poor, that we have not been able to find any one work to assist us in our search after, or examination

of, the many objects of curiosity with which this romantic city abounds. We have, therefore, not been able to proceed systematically, but have been obliged to examine things as they have presented themselves, or as our attention may have been directed to them, by some intelligent person whom we have met in society. It is true, the royal library is extensive, but no Danish liberality belongs to its establishment; a liberality, the want of which we have doubly felt, during our abode in darkness here. This darkness, however, has been considerably relieved within these few days, by the acquaintance of General Sckutelan, the Russian ambassador, and by the use of his library, which is said to rival, in the choice and number of works, that of any private individual in Europe.

With equal truth, it may be said, like a great leviathan, to have swallowed all the private literature of the kingdom, for we cannot hear of any other which deserves the name of a library or even of a collection.

The general has also a very valuable gallery of paintings. He is extremely liberal and hospitable to every person introduced to him. We were indebted to Mr. Roell, the Dutch Secretary of Legation, for our introduction, when he made us every offer of civility; and we passed an extremely pleasant day at his country-seat, called Ulricsdal.

The remark of the indifference of the booksellers to their customers, and the paucity of goods in

their shops, is equally applicable to all other tradesmen. The shops are shut during that part of the day which we wished to dedicate to shopping. At two o'clock the shop-keepers dine, and will not attend to customers, and afterwards they go to sleep; added to which, they have no variety of articles, so that, perhaps, you are obliged to search twenty shops for a few things, which in England you would be sure to find in one, or that the tradesman would make a point of procuring for you. The shops are invariably upon the ground floor, while different families occupy separate stories above, and of which there are usually three. A visit to the shoe bazaar will amply repay you for your trouble. The quantity of boots and shoes exposed for sale is quite extraordinary. Not a male vendor is to be seen; the whole business being conducted by females, who are very Jews in principle: the difference between the price they ask, and that which they afterwards take, is beyond belief. An article in common use during the snow season struck us forcibly; I allude to the goloshes: so general is the use of them, that it is said, "No man comes to Sweden without learning to drink snaps, and wear goloshes."

The butchers of this capital, are a peculiar race, there being amongst them some of the stoutest and most unwieldy men I ever saw: one man was a perfect Lambert in bulk. In England, I have frequently been struck by the beauty of butcher's wives

and daughters, and concluded, there was something favourable to their complexions in the exhalations from the meat; but as this remark respecting beauty, does not apply to the wives and daughters of the butchers here, I fear my theory must be fallacious.

The streets are of considerable length, but without a foot pavement: the houses are usually of brick, white-washed, or stuccoed. The city being built upon an infinity of islands, there are few squares; the principal one is that called Nordumalm, from which may be seen nearly all the most striking buildings, and the *coup d'œil* is magnificent. One entire side is formed by the royal palace, communicating with a handsome granite bridge; another is occupied by the opera-house, where Gustavus III. was assassinated; opposite to it is the palace of the Princess Albertina. The style of architecture of these edifices is Corinthian: spacious and handsome dwelling-houses occupy the remaining side. In the centre is placed an equestrian statue in gilded bronze, of Gustavus Adolphus, a work of considerable merit.

The royal palace, built of brick, faced with stucco, is in a good style of architecture, and may be considered a handsome modern building; it is so situated as to form a striking object from every quarter of the city.

The entrance court is semi-circular, but the carriages of the royal family alone have the pri-

vilege of entry; and, as the piazzas are open, without affording any shelter, all other persons coming to court are exposed to the inclemency of the weather while alighting, an inconvenience much complained of.

The façade next the sea is three hundred and sixty-four feet in length; there is a profusion of Doric columns, caryatides, and Corinthian pilasters, which has an imposing effect.

A small court before one of the fronts of the palace, serves as a terrace of communication between two pavilions; it was intended to form a *parterre*. A handsome, marble balustrade runs along the quay and the flight of steps, on each side of which is placed a large lion in bronze.

The lower part of the pavilions was intended for an orangery, but it long lay neglected, or converted to other purposes; however, a number of workmen are at this moment employed, to prepare it for its original destination, and it bids fair, when complete, to be very ornamental.

A very handsome chapel forms part of the palace. It is surrounded by a gallery, with a very magnificent marble staircase. It may be said, that the stairs at Stockholm are in general beautiful, being of fine flag-stone, and the banisters frequently faced or railed with marble. *La Salle de Conseil* and *la Salle d'Audience* are both large, and are the only rooms that can be called well furnished. They contain some good paintings, sculp-

ture, and vases of native porphyry; the sculpture is principally by Sergell, and there are one or two good pieces by Bystram, a very promising native artist.

The second story consists of state apartments, one of which contains several articles that were used by Gustavus Vasa. Another is remarkable for containing portraits of five persons intimately connected with the placing of the present family on the throne Charles XIII., holding the act of the adoption of Bernadotte, is placed in the centre, with the speakers of the four orders on either side: the nobles and burghers are on his right, and the clergy and peasants on his left. They are drawn in their senatorial robes, and are supposed to be giving the consent of the different orders to the act of adoption.

There is also a large historical painting, representing a review of the army by Charles XIII.; his present majesty, then crown prince, commanding, and saluting the king, who is surrounded by Prince Oscar and the principal characters of the day; and as they are all drawn from life, and are good likenesses, the piece becomes valuable. The crown prince's apartments are small; nor did we see any thing remarkable in them, except a horn mounted in silver, presented to him by the students of Upsala upon his leaving the university.

As we are upon the subject of the present royal family, perhaps it will be as well to give some

account of the manner in which Bernadotte became crown prince, you will then be better able to appreciate his very flattering conduct to us upon our late introduction.

My narrative is very similar to what has already appeared before the public, and I give it to you, solely, because of the very high and authentic source from which I have derived the facts, having received them from a Swedish officer of rank, who took a prominent part in this memorable change of dynasty.

Charles XIII. being without issue, or hope of having any, Prince Augustenberg was elected crown prince, which had hardly taken place before he departed this life so suddenly, that suspicions of violence were entertained against the secret friends of the ex-king. However, as the succession could not remain doubtful without exciting hopes of return in the family of the unjustly-deposed monarch, a Diet was assembled at Orebro, in order to completely crush any such expectation. The condition of Sweden required that the choice should fall on a man of strong, military talents, which, at that time, were supposed to be exclusively possessed by French officers. Such an undue importance had they obtained, in consequence of the revolutionary success of France, that none were found bold enough to dispute the palm with them; the Diet therefore directed their views towards that country, and were not long in fixing upon Bernadotte. He had con-

ducted himself with unusual moderation in the north of Germany, and particularly at Hamburg. He had also some opportunities of showing kindness to Swedish officers, who, in return, availed themselves of every means of disposing the minds of the people to his nomination, should he accept, or rather should Buonaparte consent to his accepting, the offer which some Swedes were directed to make to him. He was living at Paris unemployed, his imperial master having taken umbrage at some part of his conduct, during the war of 1809 with Austria.

Buonaparte gave a reluctant consent, and the election took place in Bernadotte's favour, though not without a great deal of intrigue, as the Prince Royal of Denmark had a strong party that wished to elevate him to the succession, notwithstanding the animosity usually existing between the two countries. Bernadotte hastened to take leave of Buonaparte, who wished him to give a pledge that Sweden should join the continental system, established for the destruction of England; but this he adroitly evaded, and lost no time in repairing to this country. Hardly had he arrived in Sweden before Buonaparte revoked his permission, and ordered his recall; but Bernadotte persevered in his ambitious course. Having abjured his religion and his country, he was received into the bosom of the Swedish church (which is pure Lutheran), and into the arms of the nation. He was adopted as the son of the king, and finally installed into the office of crown

prince, and commander-in-chief of the sea and land forces of the kingdom. Nor was it long before he was called to assume sovereign authority in consequence of the illness of the king; however, he acted as a man of honour, and readily resigned the regal power, when the monarch became sufficiently recovered to resume it.

When once firmly seated, as it ostensibly appeared, by the unanimous wish of the people, his dignity and legitimacy were immediately recognised by all the powers of Europe, not even excepting France and Russia. Gaining the consent of the latter power was a great point. The ex-king of Sweden and the emperor of Russia having married sisters, it was supposed that the latter might have hesitated to guarantee the succession of the new dynasty; but the urgency of affairs during the invasion of Russia by France, caused all the scruples to vanish, and a personal conference between the prince and the emperor at Abo, removed all doubt as to the sanction of Russia.

Since the elevation of Bernadotte his conduct has been that of a wise statesman and good prince; and I firmly believe that he reigns in the hearts of his subjects; so much so, that, as long as he lives, I do not think there is the slightest chance of the throne being attacked. I am not, however, so confident of his son's quietly succeeding him. A strong prepossession in favour of the son of the ex-king renders him a formidable rival, but it is whispered that,

should Oscar have a son by the marriage which is on the point of taking place, his majesty intends to abdicate in favour of the crown prince, so as to secure his accession, and the support of himself and adherents.

We, of course, wished to be presented to a man who had had such an extraordinary rise in the world, and of whom there are so many conflicting opinions. Mr. St. George being only *chargé d'affaires* could not introduce us, but referred us to Count Engestrom, the secretary of state, upon whom we waited, and the next evening at nine o'clock we received the following note from him :—

" Le ministre d'état et des affaires étrangères a l'honneur de prevenir Messieurs les Capitaines Jones, qu'il a porté à la connoissance du roi, leur demande de lui être présentés, et c'est par ordre exprès de sa majesté, que le ministre d'état est chargé d'annoncer à M.M., qu'elle sera charmée de les recevoir en audience particulière demain, jeudi, le 29 du courant, à l'heure de l'après midi.

" Le ministre d'état profite de cette occasion de renouveller à M.M. les assurances de sa considération très distinguée.

" *Stockholm, le* 28 *Août*, 1822."

The next day, when nearly ready to step into our carriage in order to proceed to the palace, a state messenger appeared with the following note, which, before reading, we concluded was to say, that some

thing prevented the introduction, little anticipating such attention on the part of his majesty, in order to save our waiting attendance for even half an hour!

" Le ministre d'état et des affaires étrangères s'empresse d'avoir l'honneur d'annoncer à M.M. les Capitaines, par ordre exprès du roi, que sa majesté ne pourra les recevoir aujourd'hui en audience particulière, qu'à l'heure et demie de l'après midi, et saisit cette occasion de renouveller, *&c. &c.*"

We arrived at the palace at the appointed time, by what is called the prince's side, and ascended the stairs without meeting anybody; but at length perceived a servant dressed in blue and silver, with the king's cipher, who desired us to enter a room in which we found some officers, who showed us into the council chamber, where all the great officers of state were assembled, and, amongst others, Admiral Stienbrock, highly decorated. They conversed with us till a chamberlain came and conducted us into the presence-chamber, a long gallery ornamented with paintings and sculpture, in which he left us. Three gentlemen in plain clothes were at the upper end. His majesty shortly appeared, and conversed with them for five minutes, when they retired, and he came up to us, no other person being present, and addressed the following questions to me:—My name? profession? if I had served in the West Indies, Mediterranean, and Baltic? He then turned to my brother, and upon finding he belonged to the Engineers, expressed

surprise at his uniform being red as all other nations wore blue, but said it was rich and handsome. When informed that ours had been altered during the peninsular war, he said, "perhaps the alteration was wise, as blue made them conspicuous, and their duties often led them to be exposed when reconnoitring, and when attached to the general's staff." His majesty then observed that he had just received *la nouvelle facheuse* of the death of the Marquis of Londonderry, and indulged in a long panegyric upon his character, particularly his calmness in debate, and greatness of mind in having carried England to an unprecedented pitch of glory and power, but of which, perhaps, he had not, at the final arrangement of Europe, taken sufficient advantage. He said he did not mean to compare him to Pitt, but still he was a very great man, and he believed must be respected and regretted by all parties: as to himself, he felt particularly for his death, having had much cause to respect him. He also added, that he was happy to inform us, that our sovereign was in excellent health and spirits when he embarked for Scotland. He then asked how long we had been in Sweden, and when informed, said we must have had an opportunity of observing the happy state of the country; that the road proved it, for we had not seen a *gendarme* during our progress; "No," said he, "there are none except an officer here and there, merely as a rallying point in case of any private quarrel; if there was a

fight, this officer would go and call upon some of the people in the crowd by name, or by pointing at them, and they would assist him with good will. These officers are like your constables with staves, *but perhaps not so well paid*" He then continued:—

"The conscription is called out in the same quiet way, being merely summoned in the churches. There are no tax-gatherers; the time for payment of a tax is notified, and the taxes are brought in, which saves a great deal in collecting. But in Sweden they are less taxed than anywhere else; it is a poor but contented country. In Holland they pay eighteen parts of one hundred; in Prussia thirteen; in Denmark twelve. I have calculated the contributions, and find that here they pay only five; perhaps, of all countries, England pays the most; but there are your excise and customs which I confess I do not understand, but yours is a rich country. We are poor, having only wood and iron, and very little silver; the veins in Norway are nearly exhausted, as rich ones, though, according to a report made to me, they will go on for five centuries, which is for ever for a nation. In iron we are abundant; there is one very rich mine which is a mass of iron; there is no occasion to subcavate, they can work from the exterior: this will last fifteen centuries, which is for ever. But silver is scarce, the government will not work the mines, and individuals are not rich enough. It is in England that genius soars in mechanism and enterprise.

" You have observed liberty and contentment as you came along; the people's morals are good, they are naturally good, which is every thing, and coercion is not necessary. I feel happy to be called to reign over so moral a people.

" I am sorry I am going out of town to-day, as I should have been happy to have seen more of you. I shall be back on Monday, when I hope to see you at a small place, near Stockholm, where I cultivate flowers; I am fond of it, it is merely a cabin, it amuses those who are fond of flowers, and affords a pleasant odour to those who are not fond of cultivating them.

" Eh bien, messieurs, adieu! I shall see you at dinner when I come back about Monday."

He then retired. The whole was delivered in a very animated manner, and he listened with attention to our observations. His majesty is about five feet ten, of a dark complexion, with an aquiline nose, and extremely sharp piercing eyes, his whole countenance bespeaking great penetration: although upwards of sixty years of age his hair is abundant and jet black. He was dressed in a blue uniform, with his epaulettes and several orders, with a red cross in common cloth: all the great officers of state had also the latter decoration, besides their stars. Count Engestrom said, he hoped to see us at Drottningholm. It is delightful to see the confidence the king appears to have in his subjects; every description of person may pass through the

palace, and even mount the stairs, and instead of being interrupted, the great difficulty is to find somebody to point out the proper doors for entering the apartments.

As we have not been commanded to dine, his majesty has either forgotten the promise, or, which is more probable, has been reminded of the court etiquette, which prevents any body under the rank of colonel being admitted to the royal table; and therefore not wishing to make a distinction between me and my brother, he has omitted us both.

Prince Oscar, who is said to be a very promising young man, is absent on a visit to the King of Bavaria, whose grand-daughter, by the late Viceroy of Italy, Beauharnois, he is about to marry. As the Queen of Sweden resides in France, his majesty has little difficulty in keeping all the ladies of consequence in good humour, by those attentions which cost nothing, and are always agreeable. It is said that the sister of Countess B—— is the acknowledged favourite, and, as such, has apartments in the palace. His majesty, as a proof that he completely identifies himself with the kingdom, has laid out the greater part of his private property in land, which is farmed on his own account, under the direction of an Englishman. The day we left Götheborg, cheese from one of these farms was, for the first time, sold publicly in the market, as the private property of the king.

The Swedes are extremely jealous of innovation,

and it was debated in the last Diet, whether his majesty ought to be allowed to hold so much private property, as it might render him too independent of the public revenue. The case was, however, decided in the affirmative. I think it is one of the strongest pledges he can give of his determination to live and die a Swede, and leave a Swedish inheritance to his son.

On the 30th, about two o'clock in the morning, I was abruptly awakened by my brother's demanding if I did not hear the alarm of fire which had just been given. The alarm consisted of two guns fired from the Admiralty opposite to us, drums beating, bells ringing, *&c.*, of all which I was quite unconscious, but immediately got up, and found many people going to the spot and almost as many returning. The guards were assembling under arms round the palace, the church bells were tolling, and each church tower had a light displayed to point out the direction of the fire.

Several carts containing a cask of about sixty gallons of water, were *en route*, but there was not the slightest bustle or hurry; indeed, so little was there of either, that I began to think all was over. However, I determined to follow the water-carts, and when about two-thirds up the main street, a most magnificent spectacle burst upon me. A house was in full blaze at the bottom of the street across a bridge, with the flames reflected from the water: the streets and bridge were lined with sol-

diers and citizens; there were an amazing number of fire-engines, with flags displayed; but above all, a most heavenly night heightened the grandeur of the scene. The Great and Little Bears, with all the other visible constellations, were shining brilliantly; but their splendour was nothing compared to the planets Saturn, Jupiter, Mars, and Venus, which were seen, together with our own satellite, in their full lustre; perhaps it is impossible to imagine any thing more majestically sublime, or better calculated to call forth the finest feelings, from a heart gifted with the slightest enthusiasm.

Order was admirably preserved, and I worked my way through the crowd without difficulty, as far as the bridge, where I was stopt by a soldier, who demanded if I had a ticket, or was provided with a leathern apron: not having either I was not allowed to approach the fire, but I had an admirable position for viewing the whole scene.

The house was nearly isolated, with a river running just before it; yet, strange to say, they had got only three engines in play, and those were very feeble, for they did not make the slightest impression upon the fire, although accurately directed by men who fearlessly approached the flames. Others had fire-hooks, with which they occasionally succeeded in detaching large masses of burning materials, which fell with a terrible crash. The engines were supplied by the small carts, which went regularly backwards and forwards in line. At length

a powerful engine came by water, and the flames were got under, though more by having nearly destroyed the building, than by the effects of the engines, or by any exertions of the men. I never saw engines less, or regulations more effective. The distribution of the soldiers and populace was such as to afford every assistance and prevent confusion: every person appeared to know what was expected of him. A number of people were collected on the adjoining hills and houses as mere spectators. The cavalry were patrolling, whilst the infantry lined the streets. The musicians and drummers were amusing themselves, and the officers were conversing in groups. The constables with staves were keeping order. The engines were at work, the drivers and firemen having leathern frocks and large hats, or others with ribands round their arms or marks on their breasts; the latter particularly distinguishing the chimney sweepers. Men were stationed with axes and fire-hooks, and the whole was conducted with the most astonishing regularity and silence, as if it were merely a rehearsal.

The governor and his staff were on the alert; he is obliged to be present at every fire, and the king, when in town, is expected to attend.

It is surprising that with such frequency of conflagration, better engines are not provided. Last June a fire broke out and nearly destroyed one quarter of the city; singular to say, it burnt two-

thirds of a floating bridge, and but for the personal exertions of the king, would have communicated to a magazine of powder, situated on the island to which the bridge is attached. It is said, that, on that occasion, a general deficiency of conduct was detected.

A fire having happened at Nykoping a little before, and which proved very destructive in consequence of the engines being imperfect, a strong order was issued (worthy of our sister kingdom), inflicting heavy penalties upon the magistrates, if they did not see the engines in good order three days before any fire should break out.

The House of Nobles, in the great square, near Bedderholm (the Knight's Island), is a handsome, brick edifice, with a very fine staircase. The hall in which the nobles assemble is handsome but plain, with no other ornaments than the coats of arms of the nobility on the wall. The most ancient of these were at the upper end; but none were anterior to 1569, when it appears the order was first created by Eric XIV. The outside is ornamented with figures, some of which are gilt, and above the door is the following inscription:—

Palatium ordinis Equestris.

Consilio atque Sapientiâ, Claris Majorum Exemplis, Animis et Felicibus
Armis,
Arte,
et
Marti!

In the square facing the palace is a pedestrian statue of Gustavus Vasa in bronze, representing him in long senatorial robes, crowned with laurel, bearing the sceptre in his right hand, and a sword by his side. Although there is an extraordinary *mélange* of costume, the whole has considerable merit. It bears the inscription :—

Gustavo Erici Patriæ Libertatis, Religionis Vindici, ex Nobili cive optimo Regi post bina Secula posuit ordo Equestris.

Stockholm may be said to abound in statues and obelisks. Of the latter, at the south-west entrance of the palace, there is a very beautiful one in granite, to commemorate the fidelity of the citizens, as the following inscription purports :—

Gustavus III. Civium Stockholmensium fidem flagrante bello probatam posteris tradi voluit restitutâ pace 1790, Gustavus IV. Adolphus tradidit 1797. Gustaf. III. Beslot ofter Atervannen fred. 1790, Gustaf. IV. Adolph. uppreste 1797, detta minne af Stockholms Borgerskaps trohet oct nit under kriget.

Facing it, and on the quay, is a pedestrian statue of Gustavus III. representing him with a rudder by his side, an olive branch in his right hand, and a crown of laurel in his left ; the pedestal is of granite and bears the inscription :—

At Konung Gustaf III. Lagstiftare Segurinnare Fredens återställare af Stockholms Borgerskap 1790.

In the square of the arsenal there is a statue of Charles XIII., with the insignia of a naval officer.

The churches, as public edifices, are not remarkable. Ridderholm church, though far from hand-

some, is worthy of notice, it being the burying place of not only the kings of Sweden, but of the knights of the Order of the Seraphim. The statutes of the order are also kept in it, locked up in a small trunk. The arms of the deceased knights, with the trophies gained by them, are neatly arranged, and those of Napoleon and Blucher, although violently opposed through life, are, from their having died nearly about the same time, placed by the side of each other. The most conspicuous tombs are those of Gustavus II., killed at the battle of Lutzen, in 1632, and of Charles XII. The latter is represented with the club and lion's skin, in gilt bronze, on a black marble coffin ; their armour, and all the banners taken by each, are hung over their arms.

Several of the nobility and great generals have also been buried here. But the only painting to be seen, except the altar-piece, is a portrait of the great Baner, born in 1601.

No service is now performed in this church, it being merely a mausoleum for the royal family.

The church of St. Catharine is the highest in the city, and from the top of the tower the view is most extensive and magnificent. In order to gain a correct notion of the situation of Stockholm, a visit ought to be paid to it as soon after arrival as possible : just before sun-set is the best time.

The exchange is a fine, handsome building, in the market-place near the palace, and, during the ex-

change hour, presents a scene of considerable activity: it contains some good busts, and before it is a fountain something similar to that of the Innocents at Paris; but instead of the water flowing freely, it requires some hard pumping to procure even a feeble stream. The large wheels for drawing the lottery tickets are kept in the exchange, but the drawing takes place publicly in the square.

The arsenal is composed of two wings forming right angles with the body of the building, and each having twenty-nine windows in front, and only four on the sides. Over the door it bears this inscription:—

"Transmit to your children, that which your forefathers transmitted to you."

Why this building is termed the arsenal it is difficult to say, as it does not contain any military stores, but merely the armour of some of the kings of Sweden, and their trophies, and horses stuffed. The most curious articles I saw were the dresses of Charles XII. and Charles XIII.; that of the former is extremely coarse, except the gloves: the blood on the right hand glove shows that he applied his hand to the wound as well as to the sword.

The dress of Charles XIII. is the same which he wore in battle, when commanding the Swedish fleet against the Russians. It consists of a round jacket and trowsers, with gold wings, and a round hat, with a black feather.

There are some curious, old muskets, pistols,

swords, and other weapons, and some rich coronation caparisons for horses, with the horse rode by Gustavus Adolphus, at the battle of Lutzen, carefully stuffed. There are many standards captured from the enemy, particularly a large Norwegian standard, taken by the present king, in 1814, when he conquered Norway, or, as the Norwegians say, when they were conquered by the united powers of Europe.

The artillery dépôt consists of three buildings, three stories in height, which are pretty well filled. There are three field batteries of six and eight pounders, in good order, but the appointments appeared heavy: the Swedish artillery is said to excel in the field.

We saw two well-contrived carriages for transporting mortars, which, being placed underneath and slung, are easilyraised off the ground, by two men, using a winch purchase.

There are some brass guns of three barrels, used by Charles XII. and others *en traineaux*, which he used during his severe winter campaigns, for all seasons were alike to his martial genius.

A long, brass, Polish piece excites a good deal of attention; the ornaments are in the shape of small cord twisted, and as it is split in many places, nearly its whole length, the cord has the appearance of a woolding to secure it. At Marieberg, about two miles from the city, there is a school for the officers of artillery, which has nothing but its

situation to recommend it. Prince Oscar, as *Grand Maitre de l'Artillerie*, sometimes inspects it, and there are two rooms fitted up for his accommodation.

But the naval and military academy at Carlsberg, about the same distance from the city, is, in every respect, worthy of the services for which it is instituted. It contains about one hundred and fifty pupils, from thirteen to twenty-one years of age. The system of education, and the attention which is paid to their morals, as well as to the instilling of an *esprit de corps* into their youthful minds, are highly deserving of commendation. The situation is romantically beautiful, and in every respect calculated for the intended purpose. I never visited an establishment which displayed a greater degree of health and contentment, combined with intelligence.

The cavalry barracks are in better order than any I have met with, even in England. There are twelve men in each room, with what, to our disgrace, our soldiers have not, *i. e.* single beds. At the head of each bed, their appointments are arranged with a peculiar degree of taste. We were much pleased with all we saw, and as we dropped in by accident, there could not have been any preparation to receive, or rather, to deceive us.

The cavalry of the guard are superb troops, beautifully mounted and equipped: indeed, all the imbodied troops are fine men, well clothed, and

have a soldier-like appearance. In case of war, fifty thousand can be brought to the field.

The naval arsenal is very well situated on the *Ammiralitets Holmen.* It is entirely appropriated to the galley fleet, which consists of twenty galleys, sixty gun-boats, and fifty yawls. The first are intended to carry troops for a descent on an enemy's coast, and are capable of holding about two hundred men each, besides the crew, which consists of one hundred more. We were much gratified by going on board the Amphion, famous for having frequently borne the flag of the Duke of Sudermania, when commanding the Swedish fleet against the Russians, and also, as the vessel in which the ex-king went to St. Petersburg, in order to marry one of the grand-daughters of Catharine. The Empress, however, having, in a clandestine manner, introduced a clause in the marriage contract, that militated against the national religion of Sweden, which the young king had sworn to maintain, he abruptly left her court, at the moment every thing was prepared for the ceremony. It is said, that Catharine so deeply felt either the insult, or the failure of the political *coup*, that she never again held up her head. Her death is well known to have happened shortly afterwards: but after this digression, to return to the gun-boats: they are schooner rigged, mounting one long twenty-four pounder, two carronades and swivels, with a complement of sixty men, and drawing four feet and a

half water. They are classed in batteries and divisions; each battery consists of twelve gun-boats, classed in three divisions, with a *bateau de cuisine.*

The yawls are of a peculiar construction, and extremely ill calculated to resist the slightest roughness of the sea, the bows being nearly even with the water; the guns are literally placed on the boat, which may be termed a floating carriage. The whole of the flotilla is in good order, and is preserved under cover. The crews are kept at their Bostellars, a part only being called on for exercise, during the summer, but two regiments of artillery are always imbodied. The armament, altogether, is kept in very good order, and fit for service.

Two very large brass guns are shown, as trophies won from the Russians. I fear they are the last the Swedes are likely to boast of, not from any inferiority to that power in their flotilla, but because, from the possession of Finland, the Russians can march almost to Stockholm.

We observed a large kind of mooring chain, which the Admiral told us was to be thrown across the harbour, to prevent the approach of an enemy's large ships. It is even said, that such was the dread of a visit from Lord Nelson, after his memorable attack upon Copenhagen, that one of these chains was actually sunk near Waxholm, and has nearly rendered the passage impracticable for their own ships of any burden.

The colours being hoisted on the Admiralty, and

the saluting battery being placed on the island, the appearance is very gay and imposing.

The conduct of the Admiral and naval officers was such as has always distinguished them, whenever they have had any intercourse with us, and it calls for our warmest acknowledgments. This establishment is perfectly different from that of the fleet, many of the officers never having served on board of a square-rigged vessel.

On Saturday, the 7th, we visited the hospital for orphans and foundlings. It is a considerable establishment, consisting of about one hundred and sixty children in the house, and four hundred in the country; they are admissible till the age of four.

If a child be left at a door, as is sometimes the case, search is made for the unnatural mother, and if she cannot be discovered, the infant is received into the hospital. We saw none under six weeks old, but about fifty from that to the age of three months. Each nurse has charge of two children, and their cradles are placed on each side of her bed, so that she can rock both at the same time. The nurses were miserably looking creatures, but the children were healthy and clean, swaddled in the oriental style, not unlike mummies. They are vaccinated at an early moment after their reception.

Although the rooms, and I may add, the whole establishment, had a particularly clean appearance, yet, for want of proper ventilation, there was an

almost insupportable stench. I do not know if morality be on the increase, or philanthropy on the decline; but this establishment is said to have been formerly on a much more extended scale.

They are arranging the king's library, which occupies a very long gallery in the palace, and consists of about sixty thousand works, and, therefore, it is not now open to the public; we were, however, allowed to look in, and examine the two extraordinary Latin manuscripts, which it contains. The first is so extremely large that it is called the Codex Giganteus, and is supposed to be written on the skin of an ass.

It consists of forty different books stitched together, each containing four sheets of sixteen pages. The following is a list of the different works which compose these two curious manuscripts as given by Dr. Clarke:—

"The Pentateuch, the books of Joshua, Judges, Ruth, Isaiah, Jeremiah, Ezekiel, Daniel, the two last chapters not omitted; the twelve Prophets, the book of Job, the two books of Kings, book of Psalms, in a different version from the common one, the Proverbs, Ecclesiastes, the Song of Solomon, the Wisdom of Solomon, the two books of Chronicles, book of Esdras, comprising the two in the Bible, Tobit, Esther, the two books of Maccabees, twenty books of the Hebrew Antiquities of Josephus. This translation differs in many particulars from that given by Genelius; but it contains the celebrated

passage relative to Christ. The manuscript likewise contains the narrative of the Jewish wars, by Josephus, of which the translation agrees perfectly with that attributed to Rufin. Isidori epistola ad Bronhonem sequitur. Ejusdem etymologia Libri XX Isagogæ Ionaicii, Johannis Alexandrini discipuli tegni, Galieni de physicâ ratione; quatuor Evangelia, Acta Apostolorum, Epistolæ Jacobi; Petri duæ epistolæ, D. Johannis tres epistolæ."

The work finishes with a confession, in red letters on a brown ground, in which the sinner accuses himself of several abominable sins, without specifying the number, or entering into particulars, except indeed in the following words, "Peccavi in fornicatione diversâ cum animalibus multis excepta cana." The volume is terminated by a treatise on magic, ornamented with an illuminated figure of the devil; and hence the MS. is frequently known under the title of La Bible du Diable, or Codex Diaboli.

The second manuscript is upon a vellum roll, of considerable length, divided into columns, and is entitled "Magistri Johannis Arderum de Slewark, de arte physicali et de chirurgiâ, quas ego prædictus Johannes fervente (this a matter of doubt) pestilentiâ, quæ fuit anno Domini millesimo CCCXLIX. usque annum Domini MCCCCXII. Morem (or moram) egi apud Newerk, in comitatu Slothingui, et ibidem quamplures de infirmitatibus subscriptis curavi."

After each drawing or representation of the patient, is a description of the disease and the manner of cure, and under that of child-birth, is an explanation of the drawing. Very few disorders are omitted, and he even mentions one which appears very extraordinary, considering the epoch when the manuscript was written,—a disorder supposed not to have been known in Europe before the discovery of America: the following is the text, without the smallest alteration; "Pro morbo qui dicitur C . . . . . p." The author then speaks of a cure he had performed, "Quidam Nobilis Ducis Lancastriæ apud Agezir, (in Hispania), Historia curatæ à Johanne Arderum torturæ oris."

The first manuscript was taken by the Swedes at Prague, from a convent. Sanctus Benedictus being written in large letters in the Calendar, gives every reason to believe that the convent was of the order of St. Benedict: St. Adalbart is written in festival letters, but St. Stanislaus is not there. The Visitation, All Soul's Day, and the Festival of the Holy Sacrament, are also wanting, but both Easter and Whitsuntide are mentioned; a proof that the manuscript was written since the institution of the moveable feasts, which took place either in 1260 or 1264. Several princes and nobles have written their names in this book.

By trophies such as these, taken by the Swedes during the thirty years' war, the fruits of the victories won by Gustavus Adolphus, and by Charles

Gustavus, the libraries of Sweden became enriched as those of Germany, Prussia, and Denmark became impoverished.

The museum occupies two galleries below the library. There are a few good paintings, but they are in a very bad light; indeed, as the attendant observed, it rather deserved the name of a lumber-room than a gallery. The pictures are frequently removed into different rooms, according as the apartments are occupied by the different members of the royal family.

The paintings, as well as the antiques, contained in these two galleries, are mostly collected by the protector of genius, Gustavus III, during his visit to Italy; but he did not neglect merit wherever it was to be found, and, accordingly, he gave every encouragement to native talent, in the person of Sugel, the most celebrated sculptor of his day, even excelling Canova, who was then young. His group, as large as life, representing Cupid and Psyche, now in the gallery, is a *chef d'œuvre*. Pysche is represented kneeling at Cupid's feet, with a poignard and lamp by her side. Both the figures are naked, and every part of the group is strikingly beautiful. This master-piece of art was originally intended for Madame du Barry, but the death of Louis XV. put an end to her power and wealth, and Gustavus bought it at a handsome price.

A pupil of Sugel's, named Bystram, is at this

moment of great promise. M. Morino, the Spanish minister, who has resided thirty years at Stockholm, and is a liberal supporter of the fine arts, showed us a Venus, by this artist, of the most exquisite workmanship, for which he paid him one hundred pounds, and this, more as an encouragement than from any competition of purchasers, for the Swedes do not appear sensible of his merit, which, like that of the Dane mentioned in a former letter, is obliged to look for support to the liberality and taste of foreigners.

The mint is neither extensive nor is there much doing at it, for specie is hardly known in Sweden. We found them coining a few silver dollars, said to be equal to those of Hamburg, but to us they appeared to be much inferior in value, from the quantity of alloy. The stamping is performed as in France, by manual labour. The edge bears a caution against clipping. There is a large collection of Swedish medals for sale.

The society for the direction of the mines occupies the upper story of the mint. It contains a tolerably good mineralogical cabinet, and a small library, comprising many English works on science, and an Encyclopedia Britannica.

I would recommend you by no means to neglect visiting the museum of Paykull, containing a very rare and well-preserved collection of birds, reptiles, and *lusuum naturæ*.

Butterflies, scorpions, spiders, and beetles are

arranged according to a system of his own, which is taken from the heroes of Homer in his inimitable Iliad.

Among the more remarkable preparations are the *organa procreandi* of the ostrich and rhinoceros, besides a crocodile just peeping out of his shell.

The perfect manner in which different rare and curious fish are preserved, particularly attracted our attention. Mr. Paykull is said to have presented this museum to the king, but retaining to himself the charge and arrangement of it.

The opera is generally very well attended; it possesses a moderately good orchestra, and some tolerable dancers. The interior is well arranged; each box contains five persons. Men and women are indiscriminately mixed in all parts of the house, but the latter are, in general, by far the most numerous; indeed, this remark is applicable to all public assemblies in Sweden.

There is no Foyer, or saloon, but every passage is solitary and gloomy, fit for the deed of an Ankarstrom; though by-the-by the deed ought hardly to be called exclusively his, for the conspirators are said to have been extremely numerous, and to have included amongst them individuals the most distinguished for their rank and talents. However, the assassin appears to have had firmness sufficient to carry all the ignominy to the other world with him, and, in return, his son has been fostered, and now holds

the rank of colonel, with an office of trust under government. We visited the spot where the execution of Ankarstrom took place, which is the same made use of on common occasions. It is romantically situated, about a mile beyond the south-west barrier: a triangular gallows is erected on the top of a small round building. Capital punishments are rare in Sweden, being inflicted only for murder, coining, and forgery.

There are about three hundred sail of square-rigged vessels belonging to Stockholm; though most of them are built in the neighbouring ports. They are generally handsome models, well built, and kept in neat order: indeed, many vessels are built on speculation for sale to foreigners, so great is the reputation of their ships for strength and durability.

The harbour is well filled with ships of nearly every nation, and the quays present a scene of considerable activity. The imports consist chiefly of colonial produce, wine, hemp, hides, tallow, butter, herrings, and stork-fish: the exports are iron and tar. The latter is kept on an island at some distance from the town, in order to prevent danger from fire. The dépôt for the latter is at the lower part of the custom-house quay, and the weighing, measuring, and transporting the metal excite considerable interest on the part of a stranger.

Near it is the floating market for vegetables, milk, and fish. The proprietors, chiefly females, remain in their respective boats, employed knitting

or mending their clothes, apparently unconcerned, till their attention is diverted from their needle-work by the demand of a customer. The vegetables are remarkably fine, particularly a very large species of white cabbage.

The fish (chiefly fresh-water) is kept in small well-boats, very much down by the stern, with one woman placed in each. All the ferry-boats, and they are numerous, are worked by females. There is very little variety of costume to be seen in this city, but now and then a company of Dalecarlians are to be met with, and, from their singular appearance, they attract much attention. They generally lodge in a miserable manner in one of the suburbs, and hold the luxuries and natives of the capital in great contempt; all the other Swedes believe one of their number to be equal in strength, prowess, and ability, to any two of them. Notwithstanding this feeling, they are often obliged, by the poverty of their district, to become menials, and in this capacity they are noted for honesty and general fidelity. Their appearance in the streets, when in a native dress, is extraordinary and repulsive. The females wear a number of coarse garments of different colours,—petticoats very short, with red stockings worked in blue and white towards the ankle, which gives them the appearance of being darned with different coloured worsteds—leathern shoes with clumsy wooden soles and heels, the latter placed under the hollow of the foot; they are worn like slippers.

The men are equally strange in their dress, and

wear broad hats. It is extremely difficult to distinguish between a man of sixty and a boy of sixteen, from outward appearance, and the same is the case with the females. But as we are about to visit Dalecarlia, we hope to become more intimately acquainted with these extraordinary people. Before we proceed, you will probably like to hear some account of the romantic environs of this most romantically-situated capital.

On the 14th, at noon, we embarked in Mr. Purden's yacht for Drottningholm, and had a very pretty but tedious beat up the Malaren Lake. In consequence of the high land in the narrows the wind becomes very unsteady, and renders boat-sailing dangerous, without the greatest possible caution and vigilance.

When on the lake the city seemed a mass of churches, palaces, and noble buildings, apparently rising out of the water, while innumerable vessels of every description were seen sailing about, or at anchor, under, or rather in the midst of the very houses. Added to this, its irregular, bold, shores denuded towards the bottom, but covered above with birch, alder, and oak, but principally with firs, together with the numerous islands on the lake, presented almost every variety of scenery. We arrived at Drottningholm at half after two in the afternoon, and landed immediately under the palace, a large but neglected building of two stories high, with two regular fronts of thirty windows each, exclusive of

those in the round pavilions at each end. There are likewise several dependent buildings, capable of containing one hundred and seventy persons, exclusive of servants.

A large flight of steps conducts to the front next to the lake, and various vases and statues are advantageously distributed, but a Neptune of bronze, between the lake and the steps, has been placed so as to produce a very striking effect.

The centre of an open arcade of five arches forms the entrance to this front, while the other, towards the garden, looks on a terrace, before which is a spacious parterre, and in a line with the centre window is an alley of fine limes, which, from its great length, seems so nearly to close at its termination, that a marble statue completely fills the small aperture apparently left by the trees.

Many bronze statues and vases, trophies from Prague, ornament the grounds.

In the reign of Gustavus III. this palace partook largely of the splendour which characterized his reign. The sums expended in its decorations were enormous, and it is said that he intended it to vie with Versailles, but, like that palace, it is now neglected, and rarely honoured by a royal residence, being chiefly given up to the ministers and officers of the court. As Versailles has its Trianon, so has Drottningholm its Canton, both presenting a strong proof of the impossibility of satisfying the caprices of taste. In the midst of grandeur and luxury, the

procuring of which had nearly impoverished both countries, Gustavus was in the habit of seeking amusement and gratification in a fantastical Chinese temple,—the unfortunate Marie Antoinette resorted for comfort to a Swiss cottage,—and both fell a sacrifice to an enraged people.

Here, as at Versailles, there has been an attempt at elaborate water-works, but they are now totally neglected, as well as the extensive park and garden.

We easily procured admittance into the palace, and were much struck with a broad, double staircase of almost black marble, ornamented with the nine muses. There were also Apollo and Minerva of marble, as large as life. Between the windows at the top of the stairs, is a centaur, in bronze, carrying off a young girl; but the walls, with extremely bad taste, are fantastically ornamented with figures and filigrane work in white, which gives the *tout-ensemble* a frivolous appearance.

The rooms in general are small, and possess an air of comfort rarely to be met with in royal palaces.

One cabinet is filled with a variety of pictures, China and Chinese figures, with the first porphyry vase made in Sweden.

The library is extremely handsome, and arranged with much taste. Although not extensive, it contains many valuable books and manuscripts; amongst the latter is one by Charles XII. when a child, in which he has written, "*Vincere aut mori*,"—how

prophetic and indicative of his future character. There are also a variety of Etruscan vases, and antique and modern statues; but the collection of medals is extremely valuable and extensive, consisting of Greek, Roman, and antique specimens of all descriptions, together with every thing remarkable in modern coinage, particularly in that of Sweden.

There are several galleries and rooms, containing a variety of good and bad paintings, principally on military subjects. The battles of Charles X., XI., and XII. are frequently to be met with. Two portraits, executed in Mosaic, are particularly worthy of attention: they were presented by the pope. In the same apartment is a magnificent Russian stove, or peach, a present from the late Empress Catharine to the ex-king, when she wished him to marry one of her grand-daughters.

The park is extensive, the gardens well laid out, and there are two fine bridges, the one floating, and and the other supported by thirty-two stone piers, erected in order to connect Drottningholm, or Queen's Island, with the main land. Although this scene of magnificence, during summer, is visited by thousands of persons, such is the want of enterprise and accommodation for the public, that had we not taken the precaution to bring provisions with us, we should have been unable to procure a dinner. We returned to Stockholm at ten o'clock, much gratified with the excursion. At about two miles from the city we were brought to and examined at

a custom-house station ; not even the smallest boats are allowed to pass unexamined, either by day or night, a proceeding excessively vexatious and annoying.

Swartsian, a castle on an island in the Malaren lake, two miles from Stockholm, is occupied by the Princess Albertina, or, as they do not hesitate to call her, *Libertina.*

Haga, a small royal pavilion, about a mile from the north gate, is delightfully situated close to a lake, and surrounded by wood. It was the favourite residence of Gustavus III., who not only passed several weeks together in this place, but even sometimes visited it in winter. His partiality probably arose from his having formed the plan of the revolution of 1792 in a corner of the garden, which is usually visited by strangers as an object of curiosity and interest. Just before his death he had commenced a palace which he intended should equal in size that of Versailles, an undertaking far beyond the means of the country, and of course very properly abandoned by his successor.

Ulricsdal, a league from the capital, was formerly a royal residence, but it has lately been turned into a Hospital for Invalids, and is now occupied by about twenty soldiers who served under his present majesty in the battle of Leipsic. They are decorated with a medal, and Swedish vanity has designated them "The Saviours of Europe!" A title by which you hear them generally spoken of with-

out the least discomposure of the risible muscles; although, to our shame be it acknowledged, ours invariably underwent a considerable convulsion.

Count Bry has a very pretty place at Rybbuholm, about twelve miles from hence. We went down on Sunday in a steam-boat filled with company. The king's being there on a visit was an unusual attraction.

The situation of the building, and the sail to it, are romantically beautiful; we found his majesty walking about the grounds with his host and hostess, in the midst of his subjects, without the least restraint being imposed on them as to approaching or crossing his royal personage, which they did at pleasure, but always respectfully. The steam-boat and some other boats, dressed in colours, were continually firing salutes during the day. The garden contained an abundance of fine apples, and some peaches, the latter under glasses. We did not observe a soldier of any description in the vicinity. We returned in the evening, and about half-way passed a considerable cloth manufactory (the first we had met with in the kingdom), situated on a small island. All the passengers were respectable, well-dressed people, and appeared to enjoy their trip most exceedingly, and to have kept within the bounds of moderation, with the exception of the master, a young Englishman, who fell overboard and was nearly drowned.

Having seen almost every thing interesting in

this city, we purpose going to-morrow to Upsala, and upon a tour through the great mine district of Dalecarlia, with which we expect to be extremely gratified.

In consequence of assurances that horses are always to be found ready between this and the seat of learning, we mean to travel without the precaution of a *förebud,* though I must confess I have my forebodings upon the subject.

LETTER VIII.

Upsala — Cathedral — Castle — Gamla, or Old Upsala — Library — Manuscripts—Cabinet—The Virgin's Slipper—Judas's Money—Botanic Garden—Linnæus—Swedish Sculptors — Menagerie—Observatory — Entomologist — Classification of Insects, by the Iliad—Tombs—Gustavus Vasa—St. Eric—Sacred Image of Thor—Murder of Count Steere—Fahlun—Great Copper Mine—Afvestad—Swedish Constitution—The Four Orders—Elective Franchise — Law of Libel—Orders of Knighthood—Swedish Honesty and Morals.

Stockholm, 22nd September, 1822.

The morning after the date of my last letter we set out in our carriage for Upsala, and at the first stage, had to repent of our confidence in the reported facility of finding post-horses on the road. We were detained some time, and only proceeded by accepting jaded animals, that had already performed their full share of duty for the day. I would therefore seriously advise you, if travelling in this country, not to be tempted by any representation, however specious, to neglect your *förebud*, which, in justice it must be observed, adds very little to the expense of the journey.

The country between Stockholm and Upsala, and the environs of Upsala itself, are flat, but the land is everywhere extremely well cultivated, although there is a good deal of wood near Alsïke. We were gratified by a fine view of Sko-Kloster, on the opposite side of a lake. It is a seat of Count Boys, of very imposing appearance, and is said to contain a fine collection of books and arms

—an odd association. We soon after crossed one of those floating-bridges so common in this country, and passing through a fine avenue of firs, Upsala, formerly the capital of Sweden, and now, as it has been for many ages, the chief seat of learning in the north of Europe, broke upon us; the cathedral and palace forming conspicuous objects.

The latter stands upon the foundation of the old castle. Its situation is very commanding, having an extended view, the country around being flat and open, and resembling many parts in the north of France. The structure is irregular, consisting of two towers, joined by a long range of building and part of two sides or wings, so that it appears originally to have been intended to form a square, but which has been left unfinished. Last winter the roof was blown off, but it has since been repaired and painted red, so that it becomes a very conspicuous, and in some points of view, not an unpleasing object. It is at present the residence of the governor of Upland, of which Upsala is both the capital and the archbishopric. It stands in an open plain, fertile in grain and pasture, and is a very neat town, containing, exclusive of students, about four thousand five hundred inhabitants. It is divided into two almost equal parts, by a river which communicates with the Malaren lake. The streets are drawn at right angles, from a central kind of square, and the greater part of the houses are of wood, the rest being of brick stuccoed.

Gamla, or Old Upsala, which is a place of high

antiquity, and occurs in the earliest accounts of these northern countries, is supposed to have stood at a short distance from the town which now bears the same name. It was much celebrated as the principal place of sacrifice in the time of pagan superstition, and as the residence of the high priest of Oden. A church still stands near the spot, and near it are some heaps of stones, supposed to have been the burying-places of the ancient kings of Sweden.

Mr. Faust, one of the tutors, having volunteered to show us the *lions*, conducted us to the library, containing about one hundred thousand volumes and many very curious manuscripts. It was founded by Gustavus Adolphus, who presented it with a very considerable private collection of his own, as well as with several libraries which he had reserved as his personal share of the plunder of places taken by storm, during the many long and successful wars which he carried on in Europe, to the glory but to the impoverishment of his kingdom. It must, however, be acknowledged, that by these donations, and by the great encouragement of learning, he made the best atonement in his power to the nation in general, which had suffered by his ambition.

We were much gratified at observing many handsome donations from Englishmen. Lord Carteret, who was ambassador to the court of Sweden in 1725, has been a liberal contributor; and a very elegant edition of Milton bears the following intimation:—"An English gentleman wishing to make

a present to the University of Upsala, sends the works of Milton." We were also pleased with the desire manifested by the librarian to bring them under our notice.

Nothing is more curious in the whole collection, than the celebrated Gothic manuscript found in 1648, amongst the literary spoils when Prague was carried by assault, by the Swedish army under the command of Count Konigsmark. It was sent by him as a most valuable present to his sovereign Queen Christina. It contains the four Evangelists in gold and silver letters, with writing between every line. Upon the abdication of Christina it was purloined by a Dutchman, but at his death it was purchased for a considerable sum by Count Gabriel de la Gardie, who immediately presented it to the University of Upsala.

A very valuable Icelandic manuscript, on vellum, is also worthy of attention.

Although certainly misplaced in a library, yet the cabinet presented by the city of Augsburg in 1632 to Gustavus Adolphus, for his infant daughter Christina, is a curiosity that must arrest a stranger's particular notice. It is formed of ivory and cypress wood, ornamented with precious stones. It is filled with relics and objects of superstition; amongst others, a slipper of the Virgin's and the purse and a piece of the money which Judas received for betraying our Saviour. Viewing with disgust these objects of priestcraft, we turned from them, and

were delighted with a curious specimen of nature and art combined, in an extraordinarily large agate. On one part is painted the Day of Judgment, in which the artist has very ingeniously introduced his own portrait, lying at the feet of the pope among the blest in heaven: on another part is depicted the Passage of the Israelites through the Red Sea. The whole is very beautifully executed; but what gives it the greatest interest, is the able manner in which the artist has made the natural shades and tints of the stone subservient to the representation of the clouds and the water, especially in the waves rolling back with fury on Pharaoh and his host, and which he has contrived with particular boldness and the happiest effect.

There are two very good busts of Gustavus Adolphus and Charles IX. But the objects which formerly excited the greatest curiosity are the two cases of manuscripts left by Gustavus III., with directions that they should remain unopened till fifty years after his demise. They are locked, sealed, and [illegible] together. Great expectation was excited with regard to the things that would come to light upon the examination of these mysterious [illegible], but the interest has considerably subsided, [illegible] supposed they have not been preserved altogether [illegible] by those in power.

On the [illegible] of the lower room is a ship in glass, [illegible] the university by the son of the ex-[illegible] [illegible] the college. His memory

appears to be cherished with considerable warmth of affection. A new building is erecting as a library, between the palace and the cathedral.

Our conductor now carried us to the botanic garden and museum of Linnæus, so called, though both are of recent formation; the house which he inhabited, and the garden which he cultivated, having gone to ruin and waste.

The museum and conservatory are contained in a building of imposing appearance. Although so late in the year, most of the green-house plants were in the open air, the whole looking extremely healthy. A cast of the immortal founder is placed to advantage. It is said that Bystram is now employed upon a marble statue, to represent him as large as life, which, when finished, is to be placed in the cabinet of natural history.

In an adjoining building is a menagerie with a poor collection of animals, but containing one of the large baboons from the Brazils, with a variegated face: the bite of the animal is so venemous as to have lately caused the death of a kangaroo, a few hours after its infliction.

We could not gain admittance to the observatory (nearly the most northern in Europe), on account of the absence of the astronomer; but the real reason we were told was, the bad and neglected state of the instruments, which made him ashamed of their being inspected.

Professor Haffores, a great entomologist, has a

rare collection of insects ; he informed us that Mr. Paykull was endeavouring to introduce a new classification, the same, I suppose, which I noticed during our visit to his museum at Stockholm. At Professor Hallenburg's we found a very extensive assortment of fossils, Madrepore, and shells, and were much pleased with the urbanity of both the learned gentlemen.

The cathedral is a fine Gothic building of brick, upon a foundation of stone ; two towers ornamented with marble pillars, and which disfigure the general symmetry, are of more modern date. The interior is particularly neat, and contains many interesting monuments ; but none more so than that to the memory of the immortal Gustavus Vasa, an oblong monument, placed in a private chapel ; he is represented between his first two wives Catharine and Margaret.

This monarch, born in a private station, and educated in adversity, gained a crown by the gratitude of his countrymen, who bestowed it upon him for his long and faithful services. In return, he delivered Sweden from tyranny and a foreign yoke, and established an hereditary instead of an elective monarchy, and the Protestant in lieu of the Roman Catholic religion.

The inscription on his tomb states that he was born in 1490, chosen adminstrator of the kingdom in 1520, elected king in 1523, crowned in 1528, and resigned his soul to his Maker in 1560, after a glo-

rious reign of forty years, and in the seventieth year of his age.

He may justly be said to have shown his superiority of character in whatever station he was placed, whether as the leader of a party, as a legislator, a warrior, a politician, or a sovereign; always displaying, in an eminent degree, the qualities best suited to support the dignity with which he was invested. He ever proved himself an encourager of learning, and a supporter of every measure that tended to the advancement of true piety.

He was affable to all; his deportment was majestic, and he possessed the most persuasive eloquence, so as to carry the hearts of all with him; and by these endearing and amiable qualities he exercised greater influence over his subjects, than his predecessors had done by the most arbitrary power. Nor was his influence confined to Sweden, for all nations appreciated and admired his noble character, acknowledging him to be one of the wisest and best monarchs that ever governed a nation.

He is the father of a line of kings, called from him the House of Vasa, who swayed the Swedish sceptre, till qualities, the reverse of those possessed by him, caused it to be torn from the hands of Gustavus IV., and ultimately placed in those of an alien and perfect stranger to the country, but who, like the great man whose encomium I have just been writing, appears determined to devote himself to the good of the country which has adopted him,

and to the people who have thus voluntarily become his subjects. In another chapel, repose the ashes of John, second son of Gustavus Vasa, who contrived to ascend the throne by deposing Eric XIV., under the plea of insanity; but not content with imprisoning him, he afterwards caused him to be poisoned. Remorse soon obliged him to apply to the pope for absolution, which was granted upon condition of fasting one day in each week—a penance which he religiously observed till the day of his death, which happened in 1592, to the great joy of his subjects, whom he had disgusted by his attempts to re-establish the Roman Catholic religion.

He bequeathed the sceptre of Sweden and his unpopularity to his son Sigismund, king of Poland, who was soon deposed by the third son of Gustavus Vasa, who reigned worthily under the title of Charles IX., and is well known as the father of Gustavus Adolphus, who gave law to Europe.

A silver coffin, surrounded by gilt net-work, near the altar, will claim your attention, as containing the ashes of St. Eric, the seventh king of that name, who was almost worshiped as a divinity. This gave so much offence to Gustavus Vasa, that he removed a statue of him which had been placed over the principal entrance of the cathedral.

Oxensteern has a fine monument, with the addition of his portrait placed over it. There is also a monument to Steere and his two sons, who were killed by command of Eric XIV. But we now

came to that which claimed our serious attention and respect. A simple entablature of stone let into the pavement, at the western extremity of the cathedral, bearing merely this simple inscription,—

"Ossa,
Caroli à Linne."

An inscription quite sufficient, for no monument or panegyric can add one iota to his immortal fame. Nevertheless, as a mark of gratitude and respect, we were not displeased to find at a short distance, a simple but beautiful monument in native porphyry, erected to his memory by the students and others of his grateful admirers. The following is the inscription :—

Carolo à Linnæ,
Botanicorum Principi,
Amici et Discipuli,
MDCCXCVIII.

He was born in 1707, at Ræshult, of which parish his father was the clergyman; but being in very narrow circumstances, he could not afford to support his son at the University of Upsala, where, in consequence of having shown a very early taste for botany, he had been sent in 1728: but after a time, having struggled unsupported through the many difficulties always attendant upon poverty, his high and sanguine mind would have sunk under the mortification he was daily doomed to experience, when, fortunately for himself and science, he came under the notice of the learned Olaus Celsius, who had

so lately restored natural history to Sweden. This accomplished naturalist at once discovered the poverty and the abilities of Linnæus, but compassionating the one and appreciating the other, he immediately took him under his protection, and even into the bosom of his family, and was soon amply rewarded, by the assistance he received from him in compiling his *Hierobotanicon*, a work intended to identify the plants mentioned in holy writ.

Linnæus was shortly afterwards deprived by death of the protection of his generous patron, but he ever remembered, with the deepest gratitude, the kindness he had experienced at his hands in the hour of distress and misery.

He afterwards travelled throughout Europe, in pursuit of botanical and other knowledge, but in 1741 he obtained the situation of Professor of Botany at the University of Upsala, an appointment which had been the object of his most ardent ambition. After this he seldom quitted the neighbourhood, and never left his native land, although the most tempting offers were made to him to repair to Petersburg, Gottingen, and Madrid, the king of Spain even offering to ennoble him, and to tolerate his religion; but happy in the esteem of his sovereign, and the good-will of his countrymen, he steadily refused every temptation, and died peaceably at Upsala in 1778.

Some time before his death he had been subject

to apoplectic attacks, which had incapacitated him from taking those scientific rambles with his pupils, in which he so much delighted. In these excursions he is said to have been sometimes attended by two or three hundred pupils, and to have been accompanied by French horns and trumpets, which were sounded in order to call the whole body round the great master, whenever he wished to explain any particular plant, which had either fallen under his own notice, or been brought to him for examination by any of the students.

After having paid a tribute to the memory of this great man, we were conducted into the sacristy, containing chiefly the robes, &c., of the archbishops and dignitaries of the church, whose gorgeous magnificence might vie with those of the church of Rome, in the hottest days of superstition. One is almost led to suspect, that the Swedes at Upsala are not altogether free from its degrading and even dreadful trammels, if we may judge from the ceremony with which we were conducted to the sacred chamber of the image of the god Thor, or Odin. Before arriving at this chamber, we had to pass through a long dark passage, carefully secured by three iron gates doubly locked. At length we came to the sacred presence, but were not struck by its effulgence; indeed, it may well be called the "logger-headed idol of the northern nations." It is an old log of wood, rudely carved into the resemblance of a monster's head, and to which human sacri-

fices were formerly offered up at Old Upsala. Its rude workmanship, and the decay of the lower part of it, evidently prove its antiquity.

The more barbarous a people are, the more rude in general are their objects of superstitious worship. Dr. Clarke says, he considers the image of Thor as one of the most curious antiquities that any country has preserved, it being connected not only with the early history of Sweden, but with the most ancient mythology in the world. Among the ancient idols of Greece, the Palladium was of this description, for it was nothing more than a piece of wood of an extraordinary form. Nothing else is deposited in the sacred chamber, if we except some rude gold ornaments.

In the sacristy are shown the robes worn by Count Steere, when murdered by Eric XIV. The following is an affecting account given of the melancholy and tragical event.

The Steeres, as the principal family in the kingdom, had long excited a jealousy in the breast of that monarch, and had experienced some severe proofs of his enmity as well as of his eccentricity.

Count Charles, for misconduct at the siege of Bohus, had been condemned to death by the Diet; the king instead of inflicting the sentence, ordered him to be carried, in mock procession, through the streets of the capital, with a crown of straw upon his head: and yet, soon after this insult and humiliation, he took him into personal favour, and

even sent him as his representative to the court of Loraine.

Upon suspicion of conspiracy, in 1567 Count Steere, and his sons Eric and Nicholas, with other persons of distinction were put upon their trial. While it was pending, the king hearing a report that his brother John had escaped from Gripsholm, where he was confined, he suddenly repaired to the room of Nicholas Steere, and accused him of being a traitor: the young count threw himself at the feet of the king, and, while protesting his innocence, received a wound from him in the arm; he instantly drew the dagger out, and kissing it, respectfully presented it to Eric, who, unmoved by this proof of devotion, resignation, and loyalty, repeated the blow, and ordered his attendant to despatch him. When seized with a fit of remorse, he flew to the dungeon of the father, and falling at his feet, called him his friend, exclaiming, "In God's name, I entreat you to forgive what I have committed against you!" "Willingly," replied the old count, melting into tears, "but if my son is in danger, you must answer for it before God." "Yes, yes," replied the king, in a transport of rage, "I was sure I should never obtain your pardon:" then giving orders to the jailer to secure the count, he wandered about the country in a frantic manner, accompanied only by a few guards. He was discovered some days after by his former preceptor, who, supposing that he still had influence over him, fell at

his feet, and besought him to spare the lives of the noble prisoners. This so enraged the maniac, that he not only ordered him to be put to death, but directed that those for whom he interceded should be immediately executed; and, strange to say, men were not found wanting to obey such an unjustifiable mandate.

These, and similar atrocities, soon caused him to be deposed by his two brothers, who united their forces against him. He was succeeded by John, whom he had lately pardoned, although condemned to death by the Diet for holding a treasonable correspondence with Sigismund, King of Poland.

Eric, after many sufferings in various prisons, was, in 1569, summoned before the states assembled at Stockholm, and, like Charles I. of England, and more recently like Louis XVI of France, he was brought to trial before his subjects. His brothers being present, the articles of accusation were read, when Eric answered the several charges with an eloquence and subtlety of argument which surprised his accusers.

In the heat of dispute John reproached him with his insanity. He instantly replied, "I never was insane but once, and that was when I pardoned and released you from prison." He was, however, declared to have forfeited the crown.

During eight years he bore a series of indignities and cruelties with a resignation and fortitude

that won him partisans, in spite of the experience of his naturally inhuman temper.

John perceiving his growing influence, secretly laid before the Diet the necessity of hastening his death, to which they readily agreed. The king lost no time in despatching his secretary to Orebro, with orders either to poison him quietly, or to strangle him by force.

But there was no occasion to use the latter expedient: the wretched Eric heard the news without emotion, and having received the sacrament with piety, he swallowed the poison in a plate of soup, and almost instantly expired, in the forty-fifth year of his age, and the ninth year of his imprisonment.

His body was transported to Westeras, and interred in the cathedral, where, as has already been related, a monument is to be seen to his memory.

I hope you are not tired with this narration, but I have been induced to go thus far into the particulars of the life of the unhappy monarch, as it affords so striking a contrast to that of his illustrious father, and exhibits a melancholy instance of the impossibility of inculcating virtue into a mind naturally weak or vicious. For it is to be presumed, that Gustavus Vasa, who acted as if every Swede was a child of his own, did not neglect his immediate offspring, and must have endeavoured to have rendered him worthy to succeed to a throne which he had gained by the most amiable and noble qualities.

The last curiosity which attracted our attention, was a ragged stripe of linen, fastened to a staff like a pair of colours, called the shift of Margaret, which was carried in battle as the main standard, in order to animate the troops by the recollection of her martial spirit. These remains were preserved at Nuremberg, and were brought from thence when that town was taken by the Swedes, and were deposited in the Cathedral of Upsala, in honour of the heroine. The kings of Sweden were formerly crowned in this cathedral, but that ceremony is now performed at Stockholm, Charles XII being the last who was inaugurated at Upsala.

In 1246 a school was established at Upsala, from which, in 1476, was founded the university upon the model of that of Bologna: Pope Sixtus IV. having granted permission, it received the same privileges as the University of Paris.

When Gustavus Vasa ascended the throne, the university had fallen into disrepute; but, grateful for the education he had received there, he took it under his immediate protection, conferred upon it many additional privileges, and endowed it in so ample a manner, that he is justly called its second founder. During the wars of Charles IX. it again declined, but was revived once more by Gustavus Adolphus. That great monarch, besides constructing a large building at his own expense, endowed the university with his patrimonial estate at Vasa, and, as some of his successors and many private in-

dividuals have followed this example, the funds of the university are now flourishing.

The chancellor is elected by the professors and the academical consistory, but it is necessary that their choice should be approved and confirmed by his majesty. The heir-apparent has been for some years past invested with this title of chancellor, and as Prince Oscar received his education at this university, he is naturally supposed to be warmly attached to its interests. Our visit was during the vacation, when only about two hundred students remained; but during term it is attended by between eight and nine hundred, among which number are many Russians.

We found Mr. Faust a well-informed, obliging man. He wore a blue coat with a velvet collar, on each side of which was embroidered a lyre, surrounded with laurel, distinguishing him as having taken the degree of master of arts.

The students are, in general, excellent swimmers, and by way of encouraging this healthy exercise, prizes are distributed to such as excel in it.

The archbishopric has been vacant for a considerable time, it appearing that the widow of the deceased metropolitan is allowed, during such vacancy, to enjoy a considerable portion of the revenue, and the crown the remainder: a charitable practice which prevails in all similar cases throughout Sweden. The cemetery outside of the town possesses nothing striking, except a very large and

highly-polished pyramid of granite, erected to the memory of the late wife of one of the professors, and a large unhewn rock sacred to that of a celebrated antiquary.

At one Swedish, or nearly seven English miles from the city, is the Morastein, a small house built on the spot where, in former times, the kings of Sweden were elected. Over the door-way are inscribed the following words:—"Mora Stenar, anno 1770." The room is twelve feet square, and several stones of different sizes are ranged in order round the wall. On some of these may be traced characters, the greater part of which are almost entirely defaced; the earliest date perceptible is 1060, the latest 1512.

During our stay at Upsala we had every reason to be satisfied with our treatment. We left it on the morning of the 11th instant, and, for the first time, experienced a slight frost, which immediately yielded to the first rays of the sun. After a pleasant drive, we arrived, at one o'clock, at Osterby, a very neat village, which, in winter, is the smelting station, and, in summer, the forging station of the celebrated Dannemora iron mine. We found good quarters, and, while dinner was preparing, we inspected the forges. The workmen are descendants of the old Walloon refugees, who still forge the iron after their own ancient fashion. The ore, when smelted (which is done in the winter, on account of the facility which the sledge-roads afford

for bringing the supply of fuel), is run into long pigs. One end of these is introduced into the fire from behind, and heated till a lump sufficient to form a bar can be disengaged by a pair of tongs: it is then brought under the blows of a *Hercules* (worked, as well as the bellows, by water), and at length wrought into a bar as smooth as glass, ten feet long, three inches broad, and three-quarters of an inch thick. A great number of men are employed at the same time, and the regularity which is observed, in order not to lose a blow from the different hammers, and not to run in the way of each other, is admirable. The work must be very laborious, as there is only one man with a short pair of tongs to each bar. About four o'clock we started for the mine, through some fields where they were employed in making hay. A large quantity of ore, forming a parapet, some machinery, and a building with a clock, together with loud explosions, informed us that we were in the immediate vicinity of it, but by no means prepared us for the magnificent sight which broke upon us on mounting the parapet. A series of oblong, but irregular fissures, of which the depth could not be seen, extended over nearly half a mile of space, and as it was the moment for blasting, and for the ascending of the men from work, the effect was awfully grand, from the prolonged echoes, and the sight of the slow and solemn rise of the buckets containing the men, who were hardly in appearance human. As acci-

dents have frequently happened from the buckets coming in contact as one descends while the other ascends, or from the rope breaking, the practice of using buckets by the workmen is discountenanced, but the fatigue of the ladders is so very great, that the more easy method is generally adopted, and the force of habit is strongly exemplified in the following well-authenticated anecdote.

"A young woman, in descending by the bucket, employed herself knitting, when, by a sudden shock of the ascending bucket, she was thrown on a projecting part of the mine. She did not lose her presence of mind, nor did her brother, who happened to be in the ascending bucket, for in the coolest manner he said to her, 'Mary, go on with your work, and I will come down for you in a moment,' by which means he did not alarm her. She followed his advice, and he soon returned and took her safely off: had he attempted by noise to arrest the progress of the bucket at the moment of concussion, it would have awakened her to a sense of her danger, which happily she was unconscious of."

I descended the great aperture, to the depth of one hundred fathoms, by a series of frail ladders, being conducted by a man with a torch, as we had a long and dark gallery to traverse before we came to the part where they had been blasting. We were much surprised to find the surveyors employed with their theodolites, compasses, *&c.*, in order to ascertain the quantity of ore which had been ex-

tracted during the last quarter. They were civil, but as they spoke French very imperfectly, I obtained but little information from them.

There was a still lower excavation, which I descended. It had been so recently made that the proper ladders were not fixed, and I found merely two rough spars with iron clamps for steps. Being under the principal aperture, to look up was most awfully grand. Some parts were supported by large pillars, others by arches, and in one part there was an inverted arch, the sides being irregular and rugged, with projecting crags in some places, whilst here and there the most perfect masonry was observed. To crown all, there were the winches and cranes, with the buckets overhanging, and here and there a ladder hardly perceptible to the eye. When I arrived at the top, dreadfully heated and fatigued, I would have given any thing for a little brandy and water, but the sale of it, even in the neighbourhood, is prohibited for fear of accidents from intemperance. I met my brother equally fatigued; he described his descent as most nervous; it was to a part not then worked, the bottom being covered with ice of great thickness. Our conductor now carried us to the office where a book is kept, in which strangers are expected to enter their names. The first leaf is inscribed by Carl. Johan, and the second by C. F. Oscar, 1819, both richly emblazoned: various other great names follow, and a note mentions, that Lady Strangford descended with her lord.

We were shown a book in which the names of the ex-king and his son had been equally prized,—such is the uncertainty and vanity of human life. The pumps are worked by a water-wheel, fifty feet in diameter, and six broad, placed at the distance of a mile from them. The iron produced from the Dannemora ore, is said to be the best in the world for making steel. It averages about three thousand tons yearly, the whole of which is contracted for in England, and sent to Hull; this contract has been in force nearly a century.

The whole export of iron from Sweden is said to be two hundred and fifty thousand tons, but last year it only amounted to two hundred thousand. The market price is ten pounds sterling per ton.

At Osterby, for the first time, we may be said to have fared sumptuously: game, chedder, and fresh-water fish. In the morning the weather had changed to rain. We started for Söderforse, and, had it been fine, the ride would have been beautiful; often along the border of a lake, with highly cultivated ground, and a proper quantity of wood to relieve the view. The rye was already so much above the ground as to give, in many parts, the appearance of spring vegetation.

We soon passed a large and good house, belonging to Count Geer, which, as well as all the farm-houses we passed during the day, had a neat appearance. The land, since leaving Upsala, had been deeply intrenched.

Before reaching Yfre, where we were to change

horses (but without a *förebud*), we met two countrymen who offered us horses, without turning off the road; we accepted the novel proposal, and I had no reason to repent, for good cattle were soon provided, and we performed the seventeen miles under heavy rain in two hours. The road through the wood (which comprises every species of tree observable in Sweden, including small oaks) is extremely narrow, and we had much difficulty in passing some carts, the drivers of which were far from civil: the first instance of incivility we have met with, but the weather must plead their excuse.

The appearance of Söderforse is very imposing, particularly the church, which is a light, neat structure, with a glass cupola. The different buildings for the forges, smelting, saw-mills, store-houses, work-shops, and dwelling houses, are particularly neat and well constructed, with the scoria from the iron ore; and they are coloured yellow. The director's house is of wood, and adjoining is a large building, containing a very respectable museum of beasts, birds, and shells. A book is kept for strangers to enter their names: amongst the entries we observed the following, "Mr. P——, of America, is most highly gratified with this collection, and pronounces it the *best* in Europe." Söderforse is remarkable for anchors, forged immediately from the pig iron, without the intermediate process of forming it into bars; they are said to possess extraordinary qualities of strength: fortunately, they were making one of twenty hun-

dred weight, so that we had the opportunity of examining the manner of welding. The iron is of the best quality, and originally run into pigs of the usual dimensions, which are afterwards divided into proper sized pieces, as at Osterby. These consisted of lengths of two feet, which in welding, distended to about three, so that at every three feet, there is a fresh weld, and, of course, a fresh heating, which is very fierce: the workmen appeared clever, and to make a good job of it. However, I should doubt the plan being applicable to the large masses of iron required for an anchor for a line-of-battle ship, but they assured me, that seventy-four's were usually supplied with them, and that they had never been known to fail.

In consequence of the unusual mildness of the last winter, the ordinary supply of fuel could not be transported, and nearly all the forges were at a stand for want of it, which rendered the works less interesting than they generally are. The distance from Söderforse to Gefle is five Swedish miles and a half, through Elfscarlby, on the Dal, over which a bridge was thrown in 1816, just below its famous falls, the spray of which we saw long before we approached them. We alighted, and went down to the best point for seeing the effect; but having heard it was superior to that of Trollhättan, we were much disappointed, though, it must be confessed, that all the rivers are particularly low at this season of the year.

The river, just above th cataract, is divided into

two branches by an island, covered with large pines and firs, round which it winds, and joins below it. Immediately in the centre of the great fall, is a rock, not unlike in appearance, a boat capsized. This island has a small fir-tree growing out of it, which is mentioned as far back as 1785, by the *Officier Hollandois,* and its still stunted growth proves the difficulties it has to contend with, even to support life. Near it are two or three boards, placed probably as trophies, by persons who may, at some favourable moment, have succeeded in reaching the apparently-inaccessible rock. There are many saw and flour-mills worked by this great river of Dalecarlia, one of the first in Sweden, which rises in the Norwegian Alps, and after flowing two hundred and sixty English miles, falls into the Gulf of Bothnia, near Elfscarlby. It is subject to very sudden elevations and falls. Towards the end of its course, it is full of islands, and so encumbered with rocks, that noble and beautiful as it is, it cannot be rendered navigable. The salmon caught in it are considered excellent.

At the post-house, near the bridge, we found the women employed brewing and baking: the beer is a sweet, wholesome beverage, and the bread is merely composed of rye-flour and water, kneaded and rolled out into a circular shape, resembling a pan-cake: being placed for one minute on an iron plate over the fire, it is very crisp, and agreeable to the palate. It will keep for any length of time, so

that they seldom bake oftener than twice a year. With all this preparation of good cheer, the house was miserable, and wretchedly furnished, particularly with beds, which were composed of dirty tickings, half filled with straw, whilst sheep skins, nearly denuded of wool, served for coverings, and this they assured us, was all they had, even in winter.

We saw the church of Gefle, as well as the merchant ships, long before discovering the town, from which circumstance we were inclined to form but a poor opinion of it. However, on our arrival, we were agreeably surprised to find it possessing wide, clean streets, with good houses, and some considerable public buildings, such as the town-hall, a custom-house, and extensive magazines. The first was built by Gustavus III. who assembled the Diet there, when Ankarstrom first tried to assassinate him.

The river runs through the middle of the town, but as it is not deep enough to admit large ships, they have cut a canal, by means of which vessels of three hundred tons come up to the quay, that is, when they are lightened to ten feet draught of water; but vessels of any size can lie in the roads, at about a league from the town, where they are secure and well sheltered, and an island at the entrance is fortified for their protection.

It is the third port in Sweden for exports, which consist of bar-iron, timber, deal planks, nails, pitch,

tar, and pot-ash: its imports are corn, hemp, flax, and salt.

There were about half a dozen vessels in the roads, and twenty-five in the canal, many of the latter fitting, in order to trade in the Mediterranean during the winter. We were accosted in English, by a sailor preparing a voyage to Alicant, with deals; he complained bitterly that in consequence of half his wages being paid to his wife, and she thinking that in a southern climate he would require few clothes, he was left nearly destitute; although, perhaps, before reaching the genial latitudes, he would have to encounter many a piercing blast. Indeed, the weather was already become sufficiently cold to induce us to throw aside our common clothing.

Gefle is the principal town of the province of Gestricia, and the residence of the governor. The post-house, as is usually the case, is also an inn, and afforded better fare than we had any where before met with. There was a *carte*, which, in point of the choice it afforded, could not be surpassed by those of Very or Bouvilliers. As we had excellent appetites, we did not put the talent of the cook to any great test, but contented ourselves with the following dinner:—excellent pease soup, served with fried pork and toast, pike and potatoes, boiled mutton, roast chedder, capital butter, but rather bad cheese, a bottle of good porter, and another of excellent old port; not a bad dinner for

an extreme corner of Sweden, and nearly in the latitude of sixty-one north.

Upon leaving the town, the road was a good deal cut up by carts carrying iron to the dépôt: we met many in the course of the day. The iron is generally transported by sledges during the winter, but the last was so very mild, that the sledge-roads were hardly passable; and, in consequence, the usual transport of goods and fuel could not take place, proving that a mild winter is a misfortune instead of a blessing in those latitudes; for, even the preservation of the winter's provision depends upon its being frozen by a certain time. We were amused by the economy of the carters, as each carried his own and horse's provender with him; the former contained in neat and curiously carved small boxes, filled with dried meats, butter, and cheese, and as they sleep in or on their vehicles, neither their board or lodging costs them any thing while from home.

The men in the province of Gestricia, wear single breasted, surtout coats, and like their friends near Carlstad, a large leathern apron; these two articles rendering all others invisible. The women wear stockings, with red legs and white feet, but the dress of the boys is the least calculated that can well be imagined for youth. Shoes with large buckles, white stockings, small clothes of green and black mixed, short vest, hardly meeting the waistband of the small clothes, single-breasted, gray

coats, the arms not even reaching the wrist, and blue gloves just covering the knuckles, so that those parts which are usually doubly clothed by the overlapping of the different articles of dress, are left quite exposed, which gives the wearer a very awkward and formal appearance. The churches, as is often the case in Sweden, have the belfry of wood, painted red and fancifully carved, standing apart in the church-yard, or placed on an eminence at a distance, in order to be more readily seen, and that the bells may be heard by the thinly-scattered parishioners. We experienced an instance of great attention and kindness from the post-master at Smeby, where we saw green-pease growing, lambs frisking, and recently-shorn sheep, at this time of the year. Our *förebud* had by mistake been made out so as to arrest our progress there, which the post-master perceiving rectified, and we found horses ready upon our arrival.

Between Smeby and Upbo, the Dal is twice passed upon very well constructed floating bridges, defended from the shocks of the ice by large and long conductors, which direct the masses to the proper openings.

Passing Rörshyttan, and through Strand, we skirted the Runn lake, the borders of which are thickly studded with young trees, from which it appears that the serious decrease of fuel has attracted attention; since, in the mining district, we have invariably found the sides of the road quite de-

nuded, except indeed near Söderforse. At a mile from Fahlun we came to immense heaps of slag, from which they were making bricks for building: the appearance of the country was extremely sombre. At length the two churches, with all the buildings, and machines for working this celebrated mine, burst upon us, and soon after the town itself appeared; but the whole were so enveloped in columns of smoke and fumes of sulphur, that nothing could be clearly distinguished, and our breathing soon became affected. The town presented a most unpromising appearance, the houses seemed as if they had recently escaped a conflagration, being so much discoloured by the effect of the sulphur; but there is hardly any evil without its attendant good, and the inhabitants console themselves by fancying that it preserves the wood, and protects them from musquetoes. After driving nearly all over the town in search of a lodging, and being quite in despair of finding one, all our applications having been met by a simple negative, we were directed by the only gentlemanly-looking man we had seen, to a widow who provided us with excellent rooms, and sent us to a restaurateur's for dinner, where we found better fare than the external appearance of it gave any reason to expect; added to which, the master told us, that on the morrow we could have bears' flesh, as they had lately been successful in shooting four. We accepted his offer, and the next day dined off this new

luxury; the novelty alone made it go down, though it must have been prejudice, because to the eye it looked like beef, and it was not tough nor attended with any disagreeable flavour. It being Sunday, we had an opportunity of observing the decorum with which the Sabbath is observed, and the various costumes of the town and country folks—during divine service not a person was to be seen in the streets, nor was there a shop open.

The males and females occupy different sides of the church; the town's people were dressed as at Stockholm, but the country people were even more grotesque than those I before described to you on my having seen them in the capital. Some were in white and colours, others in brown and red, and some even in sheep skins; all the females had their heads completely enveloped either in white or red linen: their petticoats were particularly short, and they wore shoes, the high wooden heels of which were placed nearly under the hollow of the feet; these high heels give them the appearance of walking upon their toes; they add to their height, and produce a graceful step.

Men and boys all wear small clothes and broad hats; they are distinguished by the names of Gray and Black, from their dress being always one or other of these colours. After the sermon, the clergyman read a long list of marriages, births, and deaths, crimes committed and taxes to be paid; after which, about one hundred persons received the

sacrament, the organ playing and the bells ringing during the administration of it. Those who did not partake of it, remained in the church during the whole time, or walked out at pleasure.

Dalecarlia is of considerable extent, but contains very little arable land, and the population is by no means dense, the number of inhabitants amounting only to about one hundred and twenty thousand. The principal, and indeed the only, riches of the place consist in mines and forges; but this country, interspersed as it is with lakes, forests, and torrents, boasts of giving birth to a brave, loyal people, ever attached to their sovereigns, though jealous of their liberties, rightly judging that such sentiments are not incompatible. The memory of the great deliverer of Sweden, is held in high veneration in Dalecarlia, where the peasants, artisans, and people in general are acquainted with the history of Gustavus Vasa, and remember with pride and pleasure, that to their ancestors he owed his crown; this idea exalts them in their own opinion, and they speak of this circumstance with rapture and self applause. These people, nearly as wild as their native mountains, still preserve their original, harsh, rigid manners and primitive character. Enjoying the same degree of freedom, they cannot bend their necks to the yoke of slavery; and though, at present, apparently reconciled to the change of dynasty, it is not improbable that if, upon the demise of his present majesty, any struggle should

arise about the succession, between his son and the son of the descendant of Gustavus Vasa, they would open their arms to the latter, and give the same proofs of devotion to the cause, that they did to that hero. It is, perhaps, from a dread of such an event, that all the adherents of the present dynasty endeavour to keep alive, in all parts of the kingdom, the story of the supposed intimacy between the Queen of Gustavus III. and General Monk, from which the ex-king is said to have sprung. The royal pair had been married many years without issue, and upon the birth of the ex-king, great rejoicings were made, and Gustavus ordered a general illumination. The queen dowager unwillingly obeyed; but to show unequivocally her opinion of the intrigue, in every window, amidst the blaze of light, a cake known in Sweden by the name of Monk, was conspicuously placed. This is said to have enraged the king to such a degree, that he banished his mother from the capital. They say further, that a consciousness of his illegitimacy caused the ex-king to display great *hauteur*, and keep everybody at a distance, always appearing in public guarded and in state. Here they draw a comparison, by no means to his advantage, between this deportment and the unostentatious conduct of the present king, who directs every petitioner to have free admittance to his presence, and during a late tour, publicly rebuked the governor of a province for having prevented some poor people from approaching his person. They

also say that Gustavus was an illiberal poltron, passionate, and jealous; in proof of the latter, they state that some of the queen's relations came to pay her a visit, bringing with them her tutor, a man of near sixty years of age, whom, by way of attention and respect, she caused to be placed next her at dinner, and frequently addressed him; this so enraged the king, that after having endeavoured by gesture to make her desist, he lost all patience, and exclaimed, "Madam, I command you to be silent." This, in the presence of her relations, and occasioned by an old man, the preceptor of her youth, created many impressions to the king's prejudice. On another occasion, he commanded a general to inform him, what his father-in-law, the Elector of Baden, had said of him, after a visit which he had paid him: the general excused himself from replying; the king still urging him, he at length said, it was so little respectful of his majesty, that he was afraid of communicating it. Upon this the king *commanded* him to repeat it. The general then told him, that the elector had said, "that he was extremely glad he had quitted his dominions, because he had caused much trouble, and a breach between him and the first consul, which left him at his mercy:" upon which, the king gave him such a violent blow as to knock him down; but, upon this occasion, the only one in his life, he showed some contrition and shame, for upon the queen's telling him how improperly he had acted, he acknowledged

his fault, asked the general to dinner, and presented him with a snuff-box, which, however, he refused, and begged permission to quit the court. In support of his being poltron, they assert that he represented battles as having been fought under his immediate eye and direction, when perhaps he was twenty miles from the scene of action; and at one time, commanding a fleet of gun-boats in person, when they came in contact with the Russians, upon a shot passing over his galley, he ordered all sail to be crowded for Stockholm, leaving the fleet without even waiting to issue any orders. These and similar anecdotes, which I give as related to me, without vouching in any way for their truth, are circulated and greedily devoured by those who fear the return of Gustavus or his family. From what I can discover of the public opinion, the present king appears firmly seated on his throne, and to reign in the affections of his subjects, which I do not find to be so unequivocally extended to his son: indeed, when a comparison is drawn between him and the son of the ex-king, I think the decision is generally in favour of the latter, and the preference is expressed, not without hints of his being supported by Russia. They appear to be ignorant, that in the interview which took place at Abo in 1812, between Bernadotte, then crown prince, and the emperor of Russia, the succession of the family of Bernadotte to the Swedish throne was guaranteed, before he signed the treaty by which the arms of Sweden were to be directed against France;—but as they say in that coun-

try, "*nous verrons.*" Let us return to the subject of Fahlun, the chief town of the province; the greater part of the inhabitants are connected in some way or other with the copper mines. The most a miner can earn is thirty-six skillings, banco, the least twenty-four a day, a considerable part of which is paid in grain. Mr. Pyll, the director, sent an intelligent foreman to conduct us over the famous mine of Kopparberg, the origin of working which is unknown; but its most ancient title is in Magnus Smek's time, 1347, and by that it appears there had been anterior mines. We were first of all conducted into the council-room, where we saw plans of the works, and portraits of Charles IX., and of all the presidents since his time, as well as historical paintings representing particular circumstances which have taken place, such as the dinner given to the ex-king and his uncle the Duke of Sudermania, then regent, in one of the galleries of the mine. A bill or paper notifies, that divine service was first performed in this room in the year 1648. We were at this place provided with dresses and a large white hat with paper inside. We descended by stairs formed by bars of wood laid across inclined planes, which slope downwards, and are so contrived that horses traverse them with ease. These steps, and different galleries, at length brought us to the lowest depth, two hundred fathoms, where they were working. The mine is thirty fathoms deeper, but cannot be worked on account of an accumulation of water.

The distance through the different galleries is

really astonishing; it occupied us two hours before we arrived at the bottom, but of course part of the time was consumed in examining the mode of excavating and carrying on the work. In some places the men were nearly naked, working by the light of torches—the effect of the explosions was truly grand.

Accidents frequently occur, not only from blasting, but also from the wood decaying and falling in. The galleries and arches are supported by an immense number of logs, besides the natural pillars which are left in the progress of excavation: the stages of wood, across some of the openings, are in a frail state and sometimes give way.

At the depth of one hundred and eighteen fathoms is a spacious cave, called the banquctingroom. An old custom has ordained, that every Swedish king should, once at least during his reign, pay a visit to Fahlun, and descend into this mine, when refreshments are prepared in this cave. On the occasion of the visit of the ex-king and his uncle, then regent, a magnificent banquet was served, of which they partook with the officers of the mine, and no doubt every Dalecarlian and Swede present would have sacrificed their lives in his defence, or have sacrificed the man on the spot, who would have dared to say they would ever prove unfaithful to so condescending and amiable a king. According to custom, Gustavus inscribed his name on the side of the room with a piece of chalk, on

a place already prepared; the letters are afterwards cut deep, gilt, and covered with glass—this is the custom with all royal signatures. Yet such is the instability of human resolves and grandeur, that to their shame be it said, G. IV. A. has been defaced, *sic transit gloria mundi,* whilst Carl Iohan and Oscar shine resplendently. Many other names are simply cut in the rock, and we had the vanity to trace our own. All the galleries have received different names; many of them are converted into work-shops, particularly for blacksmiths to repair the tools, and carpenters the stages; others are occupied as store-rooms and stables. There are a good number of horses employed: all of them appeared in excellent condition, and quite reconciled to their dark abode. The number of workmen employed under ground is about four hundred.

We ascended by almost perpendicular ladders, and small damp passages, through which were rushing strong currents of cold air, and at length came to the great crater, occasioned by the falling in of the mine in 1666. We were excessively fatigued, and glad to refresh ourselves with a rein-deer's tongue and some brandy and water, which we had been provident enough to take with us. During our peregrinations we were shown the part where a fire has been burning ever since 1802. It has been found impossible to extinguish it, but strong walls are built, by which means it is kept in a smothered state, but the instant a current of air reaches it,

the fire becomes active. It was occasioned by some men attempting to steal a quantity of the sulphate of iron, with which the mine abounds, and, on being disturbed, they left their burning torches, and combustion took place amongst the timber of the works which communicated to the pyrites, and they have continued ever since in a state of ignition, in spite of every endeavour made for their extinction.

The sulphate of iron, a green vitriol, presents in many of the caves a very singular and curious appearance. By continually dropping, stalactites of the most whimsical forms are produced, and the reflection of the light of the torches upon them, produces an effect not easily to be imagined.

The hydraulic part of mining is well understood, and its operation is said not to be interrupted even in the severest winters. Three neighbouring lakes supply the water, which by means of nine machines turn the wheels that work the pumps, and also with an astonishing rapidity draw the ore up in buckets by iron chains.

The ore when taken from the mine undergoes the operations of roasting and smelting. The first, in order to extract the sulphur, is performed by placing a layer of wood and of ore alternately to a certain height, when fire is put to them. This operation is performed on the hill close to the mine, and, when the wind blows in the direction of the town, causes such a smoke and unpleasant odour in the

streets, and even houses, as to render it to a stranger quite insupportable.

After roasting, the ore is pounded by large hammers, worked by water, and is then smelted in a furnace. A second roasting takes place, in order to separate all extraneous matter, after which it is finally smelted. The scoria runs off through an aperture called the eye, and being received into moulds of sand, takes the shape of bricks, of which houses are very generally built. The copper is drawn off into square lumps, and sent to Abostadt, where it is refined.

The compass becomes useless to the surveyors of this mine, a clear proof that it contains a good deal of iron. Silver is also collected in small quantities. An opinion prevails that the quantity of copper contained in the ore diminishes, but, I believe, it is not founded in fact.

The most striking object above ground is the apparatus for the manufacture of copperas or green vitriol. In appearance and structure, it is somewhat similar to that formerly described at Hertfort salt-spring: the base being a wooden platform sloping on both sides towards wooden troughs; on the upper part are two rows of rocks, thickly covered with birch boughs, above which a reservoir is formed for the water from the mine, which is forced into it by innumerable pumps; small channels are formed from which the water is allowed to drop gently upon the boughs, in passing over which it necessa-

rily deposits a considerable quantity of vitriolic matter. The water then evaporates over a fire, in caldrons, for half a day, and the crystallization takes place in cisterns, the vitriol remaining at the bottom, or attached to pieces of wood which are placed for that purpose in the cisterns.

I ought to have noticed cascades of considerable height, armed with iron, over which the water runs, in order to precipitate the copper contained in the vitriolic water; the whole operation is interesting, and forms a lively contrast with the dull, choaking, disagreeable monotony of roasting and smelting the ore.

The red ochre or colour, so much used in Sweden for coating the wooden houses, is also made at Fahlun, by first washing and then baking the earth, after which it is mixt with boiling vitriolic water, and a small proportion of pitch and tar, a great quantity of which is annually sent to Stockholm.

Upon the whole, Fahlun presents much curious matter, to repay the traveller for the extremely disagreeable sensations he cannot fail to experience, while living within the vortex of its most annoying atmosphere. We had intended to proceed to Elfsdal, in order to visit the porphyry quarries, which were first opened in 1786, and from whence such magnificent specimens have been procured; but we found that our time would not permit the visit, having arranged to leave Stockholm by the steamboat for Abo, on the 23rd instant: we therefore

started south on the morning of the 17th, and, passing through Strand, called at Ornes, in order to see the house where Gustavus Vasa was concealed in 1520, from the pursuit of the emissaries of Christiern. It is at present converted into a barn, but they pretend to show the mark of his foot. A gentleman's house stands near it, and the proprietor is said to possess a good portrait and some valuable relics of the hero; but as he was absent we were unable to obtain a sight of them, and we proceeded to Afvestad, where we arrived at two o'clock. Finding good accommodation at Afvestad we determined to stay all night, in order to witness the operation of converting the bars of copper brought from Fahlun into utensils, and with which we were highly gratified. Nothing but charcoal is used in this refining process; each furnace has a large bellows worked by water, as are the hammers for beating the sheets out to a proper thickness, as they do not make use of rollers.

The mint had been destroyed by fire about a month before our arrival. Large bolts and nails are made there, and upon the whole it may be considered a very active bustling place.

The road to Sala was sandy, and much cut up by carts conveying iron to the fair at Westeras. As we had descended the silver mine at Kongsberg we did not examine that of Sala, which we understood to be poor, and almost neglected. At the post-house we got a miserable dinner, surrounded by

drunken peasants—a more disgusting scene we have not witnessed in the kingdom. By the advice of the landlord, we passed a good-looking post-house, and proceeded to Longtona, in order to sleep, but upon our arrival found it destitute of every common convenience. With the greatest difficulty we procured beds, but were obliged to have recourse to our own provisions. In the morning we found the rats had walked off with one of the gaiters belonging to my brother. In the midst of this filth and misery, the woman of the house had her fingers covered with gold rings; many of them, as is often the case in Sweden, were very massive and broad.

As we approached the capital, even with our *förebud*, we had difficulty in procuring horses, the fair before alluded to having caused a great demand, and we had to pay an extra price. We also discovered for the first time, that by law an hour and a half is allowed for every Swedish mile, and they cannot be forced to greater speed, which is not more than four English miles an hour, and this over the finest roads in the world; however, in general, they make good the Swedish mile.

At Barkarby, the old lady recognised us as having left the precious piece of English timber, and laughed heartily at her prize. We entered Stockholm without search or other question, than demanding our names.

In Sweden all religions are tolerated; but the king, judges, and high officers of state are obliged

to profess the pure, evangelical faith, according to the confession of Augsburg. The crown is hereditary in the heirs male of the king, whose person is sacred. He is not responsible, and is invested with the supreme power, and right of appointing to all offices in the civil, military, and naval services: he may select foreigners of talent for any military employment, except the command of fortresses. The king can remove from office every person under the crown, upon making known his reasons to the council of state, except the officers of justice, and these cannot be removed or dismissed, unless by their own consent.

The rank of nobility is conferred by the king; but the titles since 1813, descend only to the eldest son. Indeed, the king is endeavouring to persuade the ancient nobles, to submit to this salutary restriction, as nothing can be so great a drain upon a country, as people with high sounding titles, who must, in order to support the honour of them, be provided for out of the public purse, or by employments for which, perhaps, they do not possess one single qualification. But, to show how opposite interests will act, while he is endeavouring to diminish the aristocracy in Sweden, he wishes to increase it in Norway, and, I believe, in both cases, finds himself strongly opposed.

The houses of Diet are composed of the four estates of nobles, clergy, burghers, and peasants, each having separate chambers. By right, they

can assemble only once in five years, and that only for three months; but the king has the power of convoking them at pleasure, and of prolonging the session to an indefinite period; during which, the persons of the deputies are inviolable. Any officer of government convicted of influencing the election, would be immediately dismissed.

The king names the president or marshal of the Diet; to fill which office, at the approaching meeting, our friend, the viceroy of Norway, Count Sandells, has just been nominated: the president is always speaker of the house of nobles. The king also nominates the speakers of the other houses, with the exception of that of the clergy, of which the archbishop is, *ex officio*, the president.

The king is not allowed to influence their decisions by his presence, and the nation can be taxed only by its own consent, through the Diet. All laws are a conjoint decree of the king, and the four houses assembled in Diet: but should the houses be equally divided on any proposed law, the privy council, consisting of nine members (and by whose advice the king is supposed to govern), is augmented from all the houses to the number of thirty, when one retiring by lot, a majority of the remaining twenty-nine decides the question.

As with us, the king has the power of confirming or rejecting all laws; and in the latter case, they cannot be again discussed during that session. Every king, upon his accession, chooses a motto:

the last three have had as follows:—Gustavus IV. "God and the people:" Charles XIII. "My only wish is to see my people happy:" his present majesty, "The people's love is my reward." The liberty of the press is established; but a libel or any publication which militates against public peace, or the progress of knowledge, can be tried before a tribunal, composed of men appointed by the crown (but not removeable), and the author may be punished by fine and imprisonment. Trial by jury is unknown.

The police, however, may be said to have the newspapers under control, and articles disagreeable to government are seldom inserted.

The method of levying the taxes is, as the king observed to us, simple and without coercion. A committee is formed in each district, by delegates from every class, and their assessment is announced in the churches, as we witnessed at Fahlun.

The House of Nobles consists of about twelve hundred members: the head of each family being by inheritance its legal representative.

The nobles of Sweden being proverbially the most intriguing and factious in Europe, do not fail every session to form a party, in regular opposition to the measures of government.

The House of Clergy, consisting of the archbishop, the bishops, and a certain number of deputies, elected from the ecclesiastical body, generally supports the government.

The House of Burghers is composed of deputies, chosen by the towns which enjoy the privilege of sending members to the Diet. Every citizen of these towns, being a freeman, and paying taxes to the crown, is, at the age of twenty-one an elector, and, at the age of twenty-four, whether rich or poor, he is eligible to be returned as a representative, when he receives a contribution according to the wealth of his constituents.

The House of Peasants consists entirely of farmers who have neither been in trade, nor have enjoyed any civil office. They watch their privileges with extraordinary jealousy, and will not allow the slightest infringement on the part of even the great landed proprietors.

As the two lower houses are very indifferent about public affairs, unless their passions are excited, or their peculiar interests attacked, and as the clergy are religious and unassuming, all political power falls, as a matter of course, into the hands of the king and the nobles.

At the opening and close of every session, the king delivers a speech from the throne, to the four Orders assembled in his presence.

There are four Orders of knighthood in Sweden; the first, that of the Seraphim, is both civil and military. It consists of twenty-four members, exclusive of the sovereign princes of the blood and of foreigners. The insignia of the Order are a broad, light blue, watered ribband, with a silver star, bear-

ing these letters, J. H. S. surmounted by a cross, and surrounded by the triple crowns of Sweden. The chain is composed of crosses and heads of cherubim placed alternately. It is held in great honour.

The second Order is that of the Sword, which is purely military. The riband is yellow, with blue edges; a gold star is worn on the left side. The cross bears the arms of Sweden on one side, with an upright sword in the middle, and on the other, a sword passed into a crown of laurel, with these words, "Pro Patria." This Order was conferred upon our gallant countryman, Sir Sidney Smith, for his distinguished services on board the Swedish fleet, when opposed to that of Russia; but, strange to say, notwithstanding his still more distinguished services in his country's cause, until the late extension of the Order of the Bath, (of which he received the second class of knighthood), this Swedish order was the only military distinction of that hero, who first successfully opposed the career of Buonaparte.

The third Order is of the Polar Star; which is a civil Order, intended for ambassadors, ministers, and other persons employed by government. The insignia are, a white cross on the breast, tied with a black riband, and a star on the left side, embroidered in silver.

Lastly, the Order of Vasa, which was instituted by Gustavus III. in 1772, as a reward for ingenious

artists, distinguished merchants, and people employed in the mines, manufactures, &c. The knights wear a golden sheaf (the arms of Gustavus Vasa), hung to the neck by a green riband, as a mark that the Order was instituted to encourage the progress of agriculture, and it has not failed of its intended effect; for such has been the improvement within these few years, that, instead of being obliged to import great quantities of grain for her own consumption, Sweden is able to supply her own wants and to export to Norway.

The great variety of Orders in Europe has been frequently condemned; but I cannot help thinking such distinctions to be a very happy mode which sovereigns have adopted to reward their subjects, at the trifling expense of a few stars and ribands: besides, Orders and honourable employments inspire greater emulation than pecuniary recompences, as the man who looks only to the lure of gain as the reward of his heroism, will very seldom perform any exalted action. Yet I should be very sorry to see this system introduced into England, because, at all events, it would throw into the hands of government too great a facility of making dependents.

The exports of Sweden consist of iron, copper, planks, alum, cider, down, herrings, pitch, and tar. The three last articles have considerably decreased of late years; the first, from the desertion of the coast by the fish, and the two latter, from the cession of Finland, where they are both produced,

and it is only from the original channel of transport not being yet diverted, that she retains the trade. It is, however, fair to presume, that Russia will not continue blind to the advantages of the shipment of these articles, and that ere long they will become Russian instead of Swedish exports to nearly all Europe. The imports are chiefly manufactured goods, and the produce of warmer climates, such as wine, coffee, sugar, silk, colours for painting, and, strange to say, wood; for Stockholm is entirely dependent upon Finland for that necessary article of fuel, and in case of war, the want of a supply would be most severely felt. In the event of a scarcity of corn, Russia is bound to allow the export to Sweden, without any addition to the market price.

The government has of late years turned its attention to preventing the extraordinary consumption, by the lower classes, of that most deleterious spirit, corn brandy; and as one measure, the post-masters are prohibited from selling either spirits or even coffee, and are only expected to provide the articles necessary for cooking; and which accounts for our bad fare at Lentona; but that this wise order is evaded, the shocking and immoral scene which we witnessed at Tibble is a strong proof.

We yesterday dined with the prime minister. The party consisted of a dozen, and was conducted with politeness and ease. After partaking of snaps, or liquors and herrings, or dried meats, as is inva-

riably the custom, the dinner was served, dish by dish. There was an abundance of servants, and it is said, that whatever remains on a plate when taken from the table, is the perquisite of the one who removes it, for which purpose each has his separate basket provided in the ante-room as a receptacle for his gleanings. In consequence of this regulation, they are extremely active in changing the plates, and handing the dishes round, both of which I experienced, the first to my cost, and the latter to little advantage, from the avidity with which the slightest cessation from eating was seized upon as a pretence to remove the remnants. I was placed next to a very interesting young countess, a widow, to whom I addressed a good deal of conversation, and on such occasions, naturally laid down my knife and fork, when I always found my plate changed, and another dish at my elbow: these successions were so rapid, that although I rose from table hungry, my attendant must have gained sufficient for himself and family, if he had one, or otherwise to dispose of at a profit. The wine was circulated freely during dinner, which lasted a considerable time, immediately after which we all retired to the drawing-room, took coffee, and departed. We found the minister and the whole party much annoyed, and discussing the impossibility of a reported robbery of a gentleman's trunk, by a Swede, under the following circumstances. Mr. M—— wished to send his heavy baggage by

water to Copenhagen, while he proceeded by land, for which purpose, his servant was directed to take it to his bankers. The servant gave it to a Swedish porter, with the banker's address, but did not follow him for a quarter of an hour, and when he arrived, neither porter nor trunk had made their appearance, nor have either since been heard of, although two days have elapsed; so that, I fear, the loss is irretrievable, notwithstanding the innumerable facts which were cited by his excellency, and the whole party to prove, how unknown any such instance of dishonesty is on the part of a Swede: these citations were accompanied by hints, that the crime had, in all probability, been committed by Mr. M—'s travelling servant, who is, I believe, a Russian. We depart to-morrow, but I shall be anxious to know if the mystery is ever cleared up. We certainly have had every reason to be convinced of the general honesty of the national character, but it would be an insult to common understanding, to assert that, in a capital containing seventy-six thousand inhabitants, there are not dishonest persons to be met with.

Public conversation has lately been much engrossed by the accession to a fortune of three hundred thousand pounds, by a man named Falini, who, when it was announced to him by Mr. Foy, our consul, was employed copying papers at sixpence a day. He could hardly believe the news, having understood that his brother, whom he knew to be immensely

rich, had left all his money to public charities. This brother, since leaving the West Indies, where he accumulated this property, had settled in England, and had never assisted him with a farthing.

Falini has made very little alteration in his manner of living, and expresses his intention to dispense his fortune in charity. However, the sum is considered so enormous in this country, that the king has nominated a committee of four to superintend the management of it, and it is said that the possessor has hardly a voice on the subject,—so kind are the administrators in saving him trouble.

We have had letters from London in seven days, a tolerably quick passage, considering the distance is nine hundred miles. Notwithstanding this instance of expedition, I fear the post-office is badly regulated, for yesterday we found two of our letters there, which had arrived even before ourselves, although we had repeatedly inquired for all letters, and had even received some while these were overlooked.

You will probably expect some account of the club, or society which has been so much vaunted by nearly every traveller, and is said to have been the first established in Europe. We of course did not fail to procure a ticket of admission, but were so much occupied in sight-seeing and engagements, that we did not present ourselves for admittance till the day before our departure on the mine tour, when, to our surprise, the porter informed us, that we must pay five dollars (banco) each, before we could

be admitted into the room even for a single day, and that the payment must be repeated in one month from the date of the ticket of admission. As we could only have the benefit of the club for one day, we declined entering at the above rate, and since our return we have also been engaged every day; so we cannot gratify your curiosity as to the internal arrangement, except by the statement we have just mentioned, which does not, I think, say much for its liberality. It occupies the second story of a large house, with rather an imposing appearance. As I before observed, all the houses are occupied, as in the Caledonian capital, by flats, or floors, and are subject to the same reproach for want of that accommodation so absolutely necessary to English delicacy and comfort; yet, strange to say, while this, in the capital, forms so abhorrent a feature, it is the reverse in the country.

The painted mustaches of the serjeant of the guard, which, upon our entrance into this capital, excited so much surprise, have now, from custom, become quite familiar, as a party is seldom to be met, without some of the soldiers having recourse to paint, in order to assist nature in rendering them *en militaire*.

The only public, or, indeed, any garden in Stockholm, is called Vauxhall, but we never found it well attended. On a Saturday evening, it is crowded with Jews and their families, and on Sundays, by servants, and the lower classes generally, the females of which,

of the capital, are at all times to be distinguished from those of the country, by their wearing neat shoes, white stockings, and good gloves, articles of dress in which they appear to pride themselves particularly.

The park to the east of the city, and towards the sea, is, from its vicinity and natural beauties, a good deal frequented; it is extensive, and possesses a great variety of scenery and forest-trees, particularly oaks of large growth. In this park is situated the small house which the king calls his cabin, and where he sometimes dines, but never sleeps.

The observatory is a conspicuous object, standing on a commanding eminence. It is, I believe, the only public establishment into which we have not gained admittance, probably, for the same reason which existed at Upsala, though its external appearance does not give any reason to suppose the interior to be in a neglected state.

I have frequently adverted to the inconvenience of travelling in this country, and fully demonstrated that, under the existing regulations, it cannot by any means become expeditious; but I do not think I have said any thing about the charges, which are extremely moderate, for, upon adding them up, we find, that with three horses, *förebud*, and drivers, or rather, the attendants of the horses (for your own servant is, in all cases, obliged to drive), including every incidental expense, they have only amounted to the rate of sixpence for an

English mile, and while *en route* we generally made good the Swedish mile in an hour, though, as I before observed, according to law they can only be compelled to perform it in an hour and a half. By the assistance, however, of the never-failing *Ia-sa°*, pronounced *Yah so*, which has been so admirably described by Dr. Clarke, we contrived to keep their horses at a brisk trot, and ourselves in perfect good humour; added to which, we have had the most delightful weather, it never being oppressively hot. Indeed, the climate of Sweden may be considered extremely good, not being subject to violent and sudden changes; the summer is genial, and the winter cold, dry, and without a great deal of the vernal and autumnal variableness so prejudicial to health. Excursions in the country, and on the numerous, fine lakes, form the summer amusements, while sledging, and parties *en trainneau* are the recreations of winter; the inhabitants being naturally sociable and hospitable in higher life. French modes and fashions may, in every respect, be said to prevail, and nationality is to be found only amongst the lower orders.

During our stay, we have had every reason to be pleased with them, and with their general treatment of us, which has given us a great wish to spend the winter amongst them; but, previous arrangements and time will not admit of further delay in our progress towards Russia.

After every inquiry, I have not been able to gain any information from the Swedes relative to the

large, isolated stone remarked near Fjelkinge; but, in the "*Voyage d'un Officier Hollandois*," I find the following passage, which, although it says Christianstad, I conclude must allude to it.

"I did not stop between Christianstad, except to examine a stone of enormous size, of which the country people had before spoken to me. It stands not far from the main road, near a barren spot called Trollebo, that is to say, Nest of a Sorcerer. The stone is usually known by the appellation of Migle stan, and is eighty feet long, twenty four broad, and twenty high, and is the more remarkable from the surrounding country being almost clear of stones." It is probable that some superstitious history is locally attached to it, which may account for our soldier's anxiety to point it out to us.

Sweden is almost without a public debt, but, from the nearly total absence of specie, her paper currency is very much depreciated, and consequently the course of exchange is very much against her.

The Swedes may be said to be strictly honest, more so than any other nation of Europe, and outwardly a similar commendation would seem to be equally applicable to their general morals. Houses of ill-fame are difficult to be met with, and the frail sisterhood neither invite nor offend the eye in the public streets, so that one would be led to suppose Stockholm to be the purest capital in Europe; but truth obliges me reluctantly to say, that it by no means deserves that character, and that it would

have been well for Sweden, if Gustavus III. had never visited Italy, he having brought back with him the seeds of a demoralization, for which the specimens of the fine arts which accompanied them will never be able to compensate.

The combined population of Sweden and Norway may be computed at four millions. It is, however, much to be feared that their mutual interests are not sufficiently understood by Norway, to render her a faithful friend in the day of need. That the day of need must arrive, sooner or later, one has only to consider the encroachments of Russia during the last century to be convinced of it.

At the commencement of the reign of Charles XII. how different were the relative power and position of the two nations, and the two capitals. That of Sweden must have appeared, as far as human foresight could judge, perfectly secure from even the possibility of insult from Russia; defended as it was by a considerable fleet, and by a frontier, comprising the whole of Finland, whilst Russia was not only without a fleet, but almost unknown on the shores of the Baltic. But what is now the case! The immortal Peter wrested Finland, as far as Wiborg, from them; Catharine established a marine which nearly annihilated that of Sweden; whilst Alexander has completed the conquest of Finland, and brought his flag within fifty miles of Stockholm, which remains an open capital, without a fleet of sufficient force or magnitude to defend it,

or to cope with the Russians in any respect. Therefore Sweden is much in the same position as the lamb with the wolf; and, however for a time she may avert the ambitious views of Russia, the day must arrive, when some convenient pretence will be made for a rupture, and then, if Europe does not interfere, I would not hazard sixpence upon the independence of Sweden, however much the Swedes may invoke the names of Gustavus Vasa, Charles XII., and Gustavus Adolphus, determining, even under the present king, to follow their illustrious example, and to sacrifice their lives, sooner than lose the independence of Scandinavia and the yellow cockade.

That the day may be far distant before the attempt is made, is my fervent wish, and that, when made, the rest of Europe may interpose its shield, and preserve the noble race independent and inviolate, is my sincere prayer.

But having now gone through this country, in order that you may form your own judgment of what is likely to be the fate of Sweden, I will conclude by giving you a short summary of the condition of the country to the present era.

Sweden was comprised, by ancient geographers, under the name of Scandinavia, a generic term used by the Romans, as the moderns have used the word desert, when speaking of the interior of Africa, to express a vast tract of country, of which they in fact are ignorant. But Sweden, even re-

cently, was a kingdom of very considerable, though divided extent, having attached to it the whole of Lapland, Finland, Livonia, Isthonia, Ingria, Pomerania, Wismar, Bremen, and Werden: but all these extraneous possessions have, at different times, with the exception of part of Lapland, been wrested from her. In return for this spoliation, she has acquired Norway and St. Bartholomew, an island in the West Indies. Upon the whole, although her national pride has been much wounded, it must be confessed that, by the consolidation of her territory, she has been at least a sufficient gainer to compensate her for the loss of her foreign and widely-scattered possessions, which were swayed by different, and often conflicting interests, none, perhaps, being in perfect accordance with those of the ancient kingdom.

St. Bartholomew, ceded to Sweden by France in 1784, though a distant and foreign possession, is of the highest importance to her, by giving a spur to commerce; and being isolated and so far distant, it is never likely to give rise to any conteniotns. If, therefore, the union with Norway should be properly matured and cemented, the united kingdom may be considered as extremely strong and defencible. Should she be attacked by Russia, although certain, in the first instance, of losing Stockholm, and her eastern frontier, the Swedes ought not to be dismayed, because perseverance, and perhaps alliances, would enable them to make a stand, if not to

recover their lost ground; and it is probably, with this view, that the present wise monarch is erecting with so much skill and attention, the strong fortress at Wanas, to which I have before alluded.

The Swedes carry their history back to the reign of Eric I., who swayed the sceptre A. M. 1810; but Swedish history is to be found in so many works, that I shall confine myself to what immediately relates to the condition of the country as I saw it.

Gustavus IV. ascended the throne in 1792. His conduct and fate are too recent to need comment, though, to his honour ought it to be remembered, that, amidst all his insane actions, he was at least consistent in his conduct towards Bonaparte, and never disgraced himself by crouching to him. He was reluctantly succeeded by his uncle, who subscribed to a modified constitution, and was, during the latter years of his reign, entirely guided by the advice and counsel of his present majesty, who appears to have completely gained the hearts of the great majority of his subjects. He undoubtedly stands upon very high and independent grounds, having been called to the throne by the national wish, without any intrigue on his own part. But history shows us how very uncertain the stability of any dynasty is in Sweden. However fickle the Swedes may be towards their government, they are by no means so towards the established religion, which is Lutheranism, according to the confession of Augsburg, and so little innovation has been made,

or toleration allowed, that Jews were not admitted into the kingdom till 1776. Up to this day the following fundamental laws are strictly adhered to.

"That people of a foreign religion shall not hold any office under government, nor open public schools for teaching their doctrines; neither shall they send missionaries either into or out of the kingdom, or found convents.

"Jews may have synagogues at Stockholm, and some other cities, where a watchful eye can be kept over them, and prevent them from having any public processions.

"Swedes abandoning their religion shall be punished according to law, which prescribes banishment, and the loss of all civil privileges."

Sweden enjoys a much milder climate than other countries in a similar latitude, which is probably owing to its state of cultivation, and to the waters by which it is both intersected and surrounded. The Baltic and German Ocean confine it on three sides, while there are lakes, which may be termed inland seas. The Wenern lake is eighty miles in length, and forty-two in breadth: the Wettern, although only twenty-four in breadth, is ninety in length, and is much more interesting to the traveller from the clearness of its water, which, it is said, enables an object to be discovered at the depth of one hundred feet; but in some parts it has never been sounded, and its depth very often increases

and decreases in a very short time. This is attributed to the effects of subterranean winds, as, upon such occasions, a rumbling noise is heard, and a tempest soon follows. In winter, the ice sometimes unexpectedly breaks, with explosions that alarm the inhabitants on the borders; yet with all these symptoms, and with the remains of extinguished volcanoes, no shock of an earthquake stands on record. Sweden also abounds in rivers, which, although objects of great attraction, from their fine cataracts, are unfortunately, by the same cause, rendered useless for the purposes of commerce. To remedy this, and to give additional value to the lakes, much and laudable anxiety has always been shown to form connecting canals. So much exertion has been displayed on this point by his present majesty, that it is confidently expected that, within a very few years, vessels of moderate size will be able to pass from Götheborg to Soderkoping, and from thence to enter the Baltic at only a distance of eighty miles to the southward of Stockholm. By these means, in case of a war with Denmark, much of the risk of capture in the Categat and Sound will be avoided. The expense of forming these canals is, of course, very great, and it is only with the utmost difficulty, that the king can obtain the necessary supplies of money from the senate, as I have mentioned in a former letter. The lakes and rivers abound in excellent fish, which afford profit and employment to the neighbouring inhabitants.

The pure and sharp air which the Swedes breathe, renders them vigorous, and they are famous for longevity. The face of the country is diversified with eminences and hills, particularly the chain of the latter, which gradually rise in Westrogothia, stretching to the north, and in dividing Sweden from Norway, reach the altitude of six thousand feet, when their summit is covered with eternal snow. The southern and eastern parts of Sweden may be termed flat. The hills are generally composed of gravel, freestone, calcareous stone, slate, and of different kinds of petrifactions, the basis being granite, which is so plentiful, that it is found in large separate masses. Taberg, and some other districts, are composed entirely of iron ore.

The soil of the plains and valleys is very proper for cultivation, which, of late years, has been so much attended to, that Sweden is no longer dependent upon supplies of foreign grain, but is occasionally enabled to assist Norway: yet the forests are immense, and supply wood for fuel, which the climate renders necessary, besides furnishing quantities for exportation. Every care is taken by government to preserve the forests, but in spite of which they meet with frequent devastation, chiefly arising from improper management in the attempts to clear parts for cultivation by means of fire, which often ravages to an alarming extent beyond the desired point. By this operation it is intended, not only to clear the ground, but that the ashes of the

wood may serve as manure. It is, however, far from proving profitable, as the wood is lost, and the ground, after producing two or three crops, becomes entirely useless. The practice is therefore discouraged by government, but cannot be altogether prevented. If a proprietor, by accident, communicates fire to his neighbour's trees, the full extent of loss is assessed, and the payment of it rigorously enforced. The process of vegetation is curious, as there may be said to be two distinct periods. For example, the seeds sown in the autumn spring up and present a beautiful verdure, as we observed near Danemora, but the snow soon hides it for six or seven months, and one imagines it gone for ever; but on the dissipation of the snow it recovers with fresh luxuriance.

The rearing of cattle is much attended to, although it by no means yields an adequate profit, from the expense of stall-feeding during the long and dreary winters. The beef is small, and tolerably good, but the mutton is execrable.

The peasantry are excessively addicted both to ardent spirits and to smoking, and much corn is unnecessarily expended in the distillation of the former, and a good deal of land misapplied in the cultivation of tobacco, which we were much surprised to see growing luxuriantly, so far to the north as the neighbourhood of Stockholm.

The principal riches of Sweden are contained in the bowels of the earth, and for this reason the

chief attention of government has been directed, since the thirteenth century, to the working of the mines. The college of mines is an establishment of the highest utility. For the relief of those who are engaged in the mining business, or at the forges, an establishment has been formed, called the iron office, where money is lent upon that metal at four per cent. A Swedish mechanic, Polhem, immortalized himself by his invention of the extraordinary (at least for his day) machines, which are employed at Danemora, Fahlun, *&c.;* and it is pleasing to find that his country, sensible of his patriotism in refusing the most tempting offers from Peter the Great, rewarded him with the highest honours and places of profit.

And now, with feelings of respect for the nation, and of gratitude for the kind treatment we have invariably received at their hands, I take my leave of the Swedes, as to-morrow we embark in the steamboat which plies between this and Abo in order to traverse Finland, and arrive at Petersburg before the frost sets in, that we may judge of it and its environs previously to the falling of its impenetrable mantle of snow.

LETTER IX.

Journey from Stockholm to St. Petersburg—Gulf of Bothnia—Archipelago—Islands of Aland—Night, Storm, and Steam Vessel—Iron Cables—Finland—Abo—Cathedral—University—Library Observatory—Grand Dinner Party—English, Swedish, and Russian Frigates—Russian Government of Finland—Salo—Lambola—Mjolbolstad—Helsingfors—Government Buildings—Quay—Trade—Army of Finland—Constitution of Finland—Taxes—Military Etiquette—Running the Gantlet—Russian Bath, *en militaire*—Sweaborg—Traitors and Treason—Borgo—Lovisa—Fredrikshamn—Peterlax—Granite Quarries—Riskila—Wiborg—Stromstadt—Krasnoja—Pampala—Rajajoki—Dranischnikoff—Beloostroff—Suburbs of St. Petersburg—Entrance of St. Petersburg.

St. Petersburg, 9th October (New Style), 1822.

We left Stockholm at noon on the 23rd ultimo, in a steam-boat, commanded by an Englishman, and having an engine, said to be of a fifty horse power, but which unfortunately on the day of need did not prove of half the force. The weather was delightfully fine, and the sun was shining very brightly on the city, so as to give it, as we receded from it, a magnificent appearance: it is impossible to fancy any thing more picturesque.

We passed an infinity of islands, and several very narrow sounds, some of them commanded by batteries, particularly that of Waxholm, through which all vessels bound to Stockholm must of necessity pass. It is not more than one hundred and fifty fathoms broad, and in addition to the castles, in order to prevent its being forced or passed with impunity, a vessel has been sunk in the middle of the channel, and an iron chain stretched across,

which can be set up by capstans in the southern castle. The depth of water is thirty feet. These preparations were made during Nelson's memorable attack on Copenhagen, and such was the dread his very name inspired, that in their alarm they have seriously injured their port, even for the purposes of commerce.

We anchored for the night at the custom-house, below Waxholm, where our baggage underwent a slight search, as it was alleged, for specie, it being contrary to law to carry any out of the kingdom. They certainly might have saved themselves this trouble, for neither gold nor silver is in circulation, nor to be met with even by accident: the country is inundated with paper, it being even rare to meet with copper coin.

Our party consisted of eleven passengers, six of whom were females; and as everybody appeared to feel the necessity of being agreeable, arrangements, satisfactory to all parties, were soon made relative to the mode of living, sleeping, *&c.* My brother and I had taken the after-cabin to ourselves, but readily entered into good fellowship with the rest of the company.

At six the next morning we weighed, and soon passed the island of Soderam, the last spot of Swedish territory. The distance to Lagskaren, the most advanced of the Aland group, all of which belong to Russia, is only sixteen miles, which will give you an idea of the depressed state in which Sweden must have been in 1809, when such a frontier could

have been prescribed to her. Surely Russia, if not actuated by ulterior plans of ambition, might have been content with *terra firma,* and left the Swedes in possession of the Archipelago, from whence, at least, they would have been able to warn the capital of an approaching attack. The wind freshened, and a little swell got up, which prevented the vessel making her course good; night was coming on, and we were drifting down on a barren, rocky island; it is true there appeared a passage on either side, but the pilot, when called upon to extricate us from our perilous situation, declared his inability, saying, he only knew the road from Stockholm to Abo, in a straight line. As the above passages had a surf breaking, from our position apparently across, we were, at dark, reduced to the alternative of driving ashore, or attempting to ride the night out with an anchor and chain cable; the latter was of course preferred, the crew appearing to trust very much to providence. The night proved very bad, the wind and sea increased, but we rode out well till day-light, when our cable parted. Another anchor, with an hempen cable soon brought her up, but not with any hope of its holding long in such very rocky ground: things now looked serious, and the crew became much alarmed; signals were made, and guns fired for a pilot; after a time a boat was seen coming towards us, and soon afterwards, that providence to which we had trusted, and which had preserved us during the night, caused the wind to shift, so as to allow us with our sails to clear the

rock, and resume the straight or turnpike-road, which our pilot so well knew. This ignorance and want of resource in the Swedes, have lowered their maritime skill and enterprise very much in my estimation; had our cables parted in the night, every soul would, in all probability, have perished.

In the evening we came to the first Russian custom-house, where a mere form of examination took place, but our passports were sent to the guard-vessel, a Russian sloop of ten guns. Having replenished our fuel (wood), we proceeded a few miles further, and then anchored for the night, which we passed under much pleasanter circumstances than the last. At the custom-house we procured some excellent perch, off which we supped. In the morning at six we started, with the wind from the northward, but with rainy, dirty weather. After passing innumerable islands, some of them well wooded, others distinguished by windmills, and only one by a church, we arrived at five o'clock at Abo, under unfavourable circumstances as to weather; still the appearance of the town and port was extremely interesting. With little interruption from either the custom-house or police, we soon had our carriage and ourselves well lodged at a large and good inn, called the Society House. As soon as we arrived, Mr. Augustine, a relative of some of the female passengers, came on board, when they were pleased to say, they felt obliged to us for our attention paid to them during the voyage. Mr. Augustine therefore insisted upon our drinking tea

with him, and made us promise to take a family dinner with him on the next day, the particulars of which I shall relate in due time.

The whole distance between Stockholm and Abo, one hundred and sixty miles, is a continuation of islands, with only one good passage of sixteen miles, by which ships can enter the Gulf of Bothnia, and near Grisleham this passage becomes still more contracted. The inhabitants of these islands amount to about six thousand, who chiefly gain their livelihood as fishermen, and by carrying wood and other articles between Finland and Stockholm. For this purpose they have a peculiar kind of vessel called a swamp, which is so very low abaft, that in the least swell the sea washes over it, and whilst the midship, or middle part is, perhaps, piled up ten or twelve feet with wood, the lower part is constructed as a well for carrying over live fish. As they never think of starting without a fair wind, and the vessels are by no means calculated to encounter bad weather, they cannot be termed either a hardy or expert race of seamen: in all probability the generality of them are of the same description as our pilot proved to be of, that is to say, bold and confident in fine weather and a fair wind, but once out of the straight road or encountering difficulty, helpless and desponding—for during our danger he appeared more like an alarmed passenger than the man to whose skill and judgment our safety was intrusted. At the time we were in the channel, a vast number of

these swamps were passing at a great rate before the wind, having a very large boom, and the main-sail tapering almost to nothing at the gaff, but I do not think one of them would have run the risk of hauling to the wind, had it become necessary, in order to save our lives. As many of the islands are perfectly steril, and of course have no distinguishing property, those in the fair way have different land-marks erected on them, which, at a distance, assume various whimsical shapes. Towards Abo the channels become very narrow and intricate, even requiring floating trees to mark the passage. They are moored by the roots considerably under water, so as to make them rise nearly perpendicularly. In the midst of this Archipelago we were surprised by the sight of a fine, large merchant-ship of four hundred tons, beating up to Abo; however, the weather becoming squally, she was obliged to anchor. Mr. Augustine told us they were famous for building large and good ships at Abo, and under the Swedish government were considerable carriers, but of late years they had fallen off, and the square-rigged vessels are reduced to a few, which trade principally to Liverpool and St. Ubes for salt. It possesses a small, imperial dock-yard, containing a few decayed gun-boats, though, no doubt, in case of a rupture with Sweden, great activity would soon reign in that department.

Abo is a town of great antiquity, and was originally built of wood; but having frequently suffered

from conflagrations, the use of that material is discouraged in building, and either brick or stone is substituted. The town is of considerable extent, with one principal street running right through it, which is situated on either side of the river Acura, and is said to be the longest street in Europe, though certainly not the most magnificent.

Near the bridge is held a floating market, similar to those at Stockholm; the vegetables were particularly fine. The population is about ten thousand, but it is said to be on the decrease since Helsingfors has been made the capital of Finland, and the seat of government. Yet the emperor has not neglected its welfare, for large sums of money are at this moment expending on the university and observatory. These two buildings, with the cathedral, form the principal objects worthy of a stranger's notice.

I will begin by describing the latter, as it claims precedence from its antiquity, though it is said to have been built by an Englishman.

The outside presents nothing but plain brickwork, the interior, however, is of the chastest style of Gothic architecture, particularly the roof. It contains several monuments, but, as connected with the history of the unfortunate Eric XIV., I must particularize that of Catharine Mansdotter, his queen. Eric was so struck by her beauty when she was yet a child, that, although the daughter of a peasant, he had her properly educated and placed in

the court of his sister. When arrived at years of maturity she became his mistress, and acquired an extraordinary ascendency over him, which probably proceeded from her beauty and good sense, but which was generally ascribed to witchcraft, *&c.* Possession only increased instead of diminishing his attachment, probably in consequence of her having borne him a son, or of his disappointment in his attempts to marry several foreign princesses, amongst others our Elizabeth and the unfortunate Mary of Scotland; but let the cause be what it may, he soon after made Catharine his wife, and, during his subsequent misfortunes, she appears never to have willingly abandoned him, and always to have afforded him the greatest possible consolation by her affectionate and grateful conduct.

That his attachment to her was unbounded, and only terminated with his life, is proved by his letters, in one of which, addressed to her, he laments the miseries of his own imprisonment, and adds, "God forbid, wherever you are (for he appears to have been kept in ignorance of her abode), that you and your children should experience any similar severity; forget not your beloved Eric, and break not the marriage vow to which I have always adhered with the most inviolable constancy." After his violent death she contrived, by her prudence, so to conciliate the favour of the two brothers, that she remained during the rest of her life undisturbed at Abo, and in the enjoyment of a considerable revenue.

The organ here is a most excellent one, and the gift of a citizen, but it is rendered ridiculous by the figure of the donor, painted at full length in the centre of the case.

Over the door of the sacristy is a gilded, wooden image of St. Henry, the martyr, he being the patron saint of Finland, and the first preacher of the gospel in that country. Just outside the town is a well, held in great veneration, as the place where the first Finn was baptized by him.

The university was founded during the minority of Queen Christina, about the year 1640. Gustavus IV. began to rebuild it, but its progress was stopped by his unfortunate wars, and the ultimate loss of the country. However, Alexander has, with much liberality, continued the original plan, with only this difference, that the hall of state is crowned by a colossal bust of the emperor, instead of by that of the ex-king. The hall is really a magnificent room, ornamented with large, highly polished, granite pillars, and with others covered with a stucco, the difference between which and marble is difficult to discover. The cornices and ornaments are beautifully executed in composition, an art in which the Russians are said to excel.

The professors are numerous, and are said to be well paid, and to enjoy a good reputation. The students have the privilege of wearing a sword when in full dress, which is considered a very honourable distinction to those who are not in the army.

The library was founded by Count Bry, about the same time as the university: it contains ten thousand volumes, arranged in several very good rooms, convenient for research, and furnished with tables, *&c.* There are also cabinets of mineralogy and natural history.

The observatory being the most northern in the world, and on the same meridian as that at the Cape of Good Hope, excited great interest, and we hastened to visit it. The situation, on a rock above the town, is admirably commanding. The building is hardly finished, and we were quite shocked to find a magnificent set of astronomical instruments, just received from Rieffeder and Co., of Munich, lying about half unpacked, and so exposed as to be at the merciless examination of every person whom the attendant, a common soldier, might introduce. We inquired for the astronomer, but were told that, as the observatory was not quite ready, he did not attend: I fear, when he does, the instruments will be so deranged as to be useless. The view is most extensive and varied, though the country appears very steril.

On the day after our arrival, we repaired at two o'clock to the house of Mr. Augustine, in order to partake of his family dinner, but were surprised to find a party of twenty-four assembled; he however assured us they were all relations: some of the females were very fine, handsome women. After partaking of *snaps*, an elegant dinner was served; there

were removes innumerable: a good deal of wine was drunk, and we expected to retire, as is customary in Sweden, but, to our astonishment, the English mode of taking off the cloth and renewing the table with a dessert and wine was adopted, Mr. Augustine informing us he had been in England and admired our customs. He then directed a bumper to be filled, and drank to the health of the King of England, with three times three. At the end of the roar, our astonishment and sense of his politeness were still further excited, by a full military band striking up "God save the King." We of course expressed our sense of the honour, and proposed toasts that we thought would be most agreeable to him; in this way was the merry glass circulated till six o'clock, when dancing commenced, which was kept up with great spirit till near ten, when we again returned to the pleasures of the table, which with singing and toasts were continued till near midnight, when we were unwillingly allowed to retire from this family party, at which it is impossible that more hospitality or polite attention could have been shown; and we felt most sensibly the honour done to England, and to ourselves as Englishmen. As in Sweden, supper appears to be absolutely necessary to terminate the day, but it is not attended with the same prejudicial effects upon the teeth of the females, as in that country. Except being rather too much *en bon point*, those of the present party were mostly handsome, agreeable-looking women.

Two of our fellow passengers started early in the morning for Helsingfors, and were extremely anxious we should accompany them, in order to ensure our mutual safety, a report prevailing that a number of the *forçats* had escaped from Sweaborg, and were levying contributions upon travellers, generally accompanying their robbery by murder. One of the gentlemen appeared dreadfully alarmed, and was so ridiculously armed with pistols and swords, as to excite our laughter, in spite of the dread he by every means in his power endeavoured to inspire us with; and when we absolutely refused to accompany them, he was quite desponding, and said that, by our obstinacy, perhaps both parties would be robbed and immolated; whereas, if together, nobody would dare to attack us. We could not help feeling that he trusted much to our being Englishmen, of whom, in this part of the world, a very high opinion is entertained.

In 1812, at the time of the interview between the Emperor and Crown Prince of Sweden, three frigates were in the roads, a Russian, a Swedish, and an English, yet with all their prejudice in favour of their former countrymen, they do not hesitate to speak in terms of the highest admiration of the superior order and discipline of our ship, while they allude with contempt to the Russian vessel. These ships were commanded by three of the best officers of the respective services, *viz.*, our friend Admiral Nordenskield, Admiral Count Haydn of the Russian

service, and Captain Bowles, who, for the first five years after the peace, held the responsible, delicate, and difficult command in South America, and conducted all diplomatic and commercial proceedings, when there were so many different and jarring interests to contend with. He nevertheless continued to inspire them all with respect for himself and for his country; his conduct at the same time meeting with the highest approbation of government, as I believe you have had a good opportunity of knowing.

Although the recent separation of Abo (thirteen years) from Sweden, has not as yet caused the inhabitants to assimilate much to the Russian manners, and not at all to their religion, nevertheless, from the troops, and many of the *employés,* being Russians, many customs of the latter country are observable in Finland. Two Greek churches, with cupolas painted green, and surmounted with a crescent, droskies, and the number of people dressed in uniform, do not fail forcibly to remind the stranger that he is no longer in Sweden: but the proof which we hailed with most pleasure was, that the *förebud* became unnecessary, and that, as in England, we could choose our own time for starting, being sure of always finding horses ready at the different post-houses; and the yard of our inn, in point of bustle, had all the liveliness of an English one. We were agreeably surprised to find that, although under the most despotic military government in Europe, we were not the least annoyed by

the police, and had our passports backed for Petersburg without difficulty. Finland has a bank and a paper currency of her own; we were provided with a letter of credit, and soon found ourselves in possession of neat, new notes, but which, as in Sweden, descended to the smallest sums; but instead of dollars and skillings, we now began to count in rubles and copecks. The rate of exchange was very much in our favour, and we received ten thousand rubles for fifty pounds sterling.

We were a good deal amused with the servant-maid at the Society House. Although pretty, she was dreadfully sulky, and we could neither extort an answer nor a smile from her, till just before our departure, when taking away something, she was greatly embarrassed how to open the door, from having her hands full: I immediately rose from table and opened it, when she felt the undeserved civility, and expressed her thanks in so different a way from her former manner, that she did not appear the same person—such is the contrast between amiableness and moroseness. But that you may not, from this anecdote, suppose that the Finnish damsels are all of her disposition, I must tell you, that the morning after our arrival I was surprised and awakened by a very amiable and pretty fruit-girl coming into my room, and offering to sell apples and plums: so difficult is it to form an opinion of character from one or two instances; for never was a greater contrast between two women of the same town.

Soon after noon, on Saturday the 28th ultimo, we took leave of our kind friends, and proceeded (with three horses to our carriage, harnessed as in Sweden,) to Salo, thirty-five miles off, where we arrived at a dirty post-house about seven o'clock; however, they gave us clean beds, and cooked a couple of grouse for our supper, so that we had no reason to complain of our treatment, particularly as the people were civil and obliging.

From a hill about two miles from Abo, there is a curious bird's eye view of the town, which has a singular effect, from the diversity of the surrounding scenery: most of the houses, as in Denmark, have white chimneys. The extraordinary number of small windmills, both near the town and during the whole of the day's journey, attracted a good deal of attention; it appears to be the custom for every person to grind his own corn. We passed many neat looking country boxes.

The country between Abo and Salo, to the left, is rocky and hilly, but well wooded; to the right it is more level, with arable and pasture land; the former clean, with good looking crops of rye—the latter well filled with extremely bulky cattle. Yet with rocks on one side, and pasture on the other, the road was often disagreeably sandy and heavy. At each post-house we found horses ready to put too in a moment. As in Sweden, our own servant drove, he is a very intelligent young man, and although a Swede, speaks English like a native; we hired him soon after our arrival at Stockholm,

and he made the trip to the mines with us so much to our satisfaction, that we brought him on; but as he does not know much about this city (Petersburg), he is to leave us in a day or two, in order to return to his family. Michaelmas day proved beautiful, and being Sunday, the road near Lembala was much enlivened by a number of equestrians and pedestrians repairing to church. They were all very well dressed; the women wearing their hair neatly done up, and enclosed behind in green silk or satin bags. The church inside was in a neglected state, but crowded to excess, the men and women occupying different sides. The inhabitants of the Duchy of Finland are Lutherans. Equipages do not appear to be common, for a gentleman seeing I was in a carriage, inquired if I was an ambassador.

Half way between Lembala and Svenskby, we came to a steep hill in a thick wood, which neither encouragement nor coercion could induce our horses to mount. After many ineffectual attempts, we were obliged to send the driver on, in order to bring fresh horses, which he did at the expiration of two hours, which we had passed not without some apprehension that the predictions of our former timid companion might have been verified; for certainly there never was a spot better calculated for such deeds. However, nothing happened, and we arrived safely at Mjolbolsta about eight o'clock, where we were miserably lodged. A number of peasants of both sexes were collected, and enjoying themselves

in dancing and drinking: there was nothing graceful in the dancing; indeed I have never witnessed less at a country fair in England, which is saying a good deal. We made only forty-five miles during the day, the road being deep sand, which appeared the more extraordinary as on each side were rocks and trees, the latter consisting of pines, firs, and birch rather dwarfish; and, as the day before, we passed good looking houses, cattle, and crops of rye.

Monday proved delightful weather, and we made good one Swedish mile an hour, arriving at Helsingfors at five o'clock. The road till reaching Thaikes was something like that described in the north of Germany. Indeed, there does not appear to have been any attempt to form a road, except by cutting down trees, leaving sufficient space for carts and cattle to pass. It then became good till approaching the capital, when it was much cut up by traffic, although the country became rocky and steril. We did not pass many villages or churches; but now and then good-looking seats, or houses of country-gentlemen, appeared at a distance; indeed, they occurred more frequently than in either Denmark, Sweden, or Norway. Many of them were lofty, having even attics.

The post-houses in general are very bad, and the yards so deep with mud, *&c.*, that a causeway of plank is obliged to be thrown across, in order to admit of approach to the house, which seldom

affords a better entertainment than ham, eggs, and rye bread, the latter not eatable. All the way from Abo to Helsingfors, we frequently met soldiers conveying prisoners or cattle, and peasants in carts with a bell ringing as it hung to the shafts; they were invariably armed, and wore velvet caps. There are few post-towns for letters in Finland. Near Qvis, we met the mail; the guard was cased in swords and pistols; yet, with all these precautions, we did not hear of any well-authenticated facts of robberies, although everybody predicted danger. Abo, while under the dominion of Sweden, had always been considered the capital and seat of government of Finland; but, upon the cession of the duchy to Russia, these distinctions were very properly transferred to Helsingfors, it being situated in almost the centre of the line of coast, and having a strong fortress in its immediate vicinity: since which it has assumed a very imposing appearance, from the number of government buildings which are in progress, and are mostly constructed of brick stuccoed white. The senate-house is of great extent, with a staircase which does honour to the architect, Mr. Engel, a Prussian. He has been employed seven years, upon designs for improving and embellishing the town; he had the goodness to show us some of the plans, "Approuvé par l'ordre supérieur de S. M. l'empereur, le prince Volskonsky:" these will be carried into effect, without imposing fresh burdens on the Finns, because the emperor

has reduced their military establishment to five thousand men, although, by the treaty under which Finland was ceded to Russia, it ought to be twenty thousand; the consequent saving he has generously dedicated to these improvements, and to other objects beneficial to the country. In order to facilitate commerce, a very fine quay has been formed, which alone cost eight hundred thousand pounds, and no doubt, in time, Helsingfors will become a trading port, particularly as the bay is one of the finest in Europe. It must be acknowledged, however, that at present the Finns display very little commercial enterprise, yet, according to an official report, it appears that the exports last year amounted to five million of rubles, and the imports to four: the former consist principally of tar, plank, and fish; the latter, of wine, and manufactured and colonial goods. Since their annexation to Russia, they have lost all trade to the Mediterranean, because that country has not concluded any treaty with the Barbary powers. However, upon inquiry, it does not appear that the annexation is considered as a grievance by the Finns, now that the natural feelings of humiliation on being conquered are overcome, as well as the dissolution of certain ties with Sweden are forgotten. In point of fact, their situation is much meliorated; for, by being incorporated with a more powerful state, they are relieved from the perpetual dread of seeing their country made the seat of war, and from the consequent taxation, as well as ha-

rasing personal service always attendant upon preparations for defence; added to which, all their ancient customs, liberties, privileges, and religion are guaranteed to them.

They have a senate of their own, but it is not deliberative. None but natives can hold civil offices in their country, and the transactions of government are conducted at Petersburg, by a secretary of state, for the duchy of Finland, who is a Finn, and who is said to act very independently, where the interest of his country is concerned.

None of the taxes levied in Finland go into the imperial treasury, but they are given up by the emperor for the good of the country; so that the Finns may be considered independent, and in the enjoyment of greater privileges than when under the Swedish monarchy. By an extraordinary, disinterested, and generous act of the Emperor Alexander, these benefits have been extended to that part of Finland which was conquered by Peter the Great, and which had heretofore been treated with the rigour of a conquered province. However, it must not be forgotten, that these advantages are held by an unstable tenure, the will of the sovereign, for should a future emperor ever be so lost to his own and their interest, as to wish to deprive them of their present independence, it is vain to suppose they could successfully resist, and it would be equally vain for them to look for assistance to their former protectors. Any attempt by Sweden to afford them

succour, would, in all probability, be the commencement of her own subjugation, unless some of the powerful nations of Europe, especially maritime nations, were to join in league; then, indeed, with a disaffected population, Finland might become the point through which Russia would be vulnerable. The arms of the duchy are, a lion, with a sword surmounted by stars: its inhabitants are reckoned at half a million.

Every soldier, as soon as he comes within sight of the governor's house, is obliged to pull off his cap, and remain uncovered till he has passed it. At each guard-room, there is a bell which rings to turn the guard out the moment a colonel or superior officer appears: we were much amused by the frequency of this ceremony to an officer in undress, who was obliged to pass very often in and out of an apothecary's shop, and the moment he appeared, off went the bell, and out turned the guard: the poor officer got so tired of it at length, that being obliged to repeat his visits to the shop, we remarked that he went by a back street.

Just before sun-set, a body of about two hundred and fifty soldiers marched out of the town; we followed them, and shortly afterwards saw a prisoner conducted from the barracks. The troops presented arms; a paper was read to the prisoner, after which they formed two deep, face inwards, with open ranks, and had thick twigs served out to them. The culprit was then stripped, his hands tied to

the but-end of a musquet, the barrel of which was held tightly under the right arm of a serjeant, the drums began to beat, and in this manner the prisoner passed twice down and twice up the ranks; thereby receiving about one thousand lashes. The soldiers appeared to lay it on sharply, and with good-will, many of them laughing and joking as he approached. It is needless to observe, that the only duty of the serjeant was, to prevent the culprit from advancing too fast: they both walked very steadily, the sufferer making a sort of moan during the whole operation, which did not occupy much time. His back, and particularly his arms, were a good deal cut, the blood flowing freely. The soldiers marched off singing, the prisoner was conducted to the hospital, while the twigs were carefully collected, and no doubt, put in pickle, for future service. We could not find out the nature of his offence; but as there were only a captain and two subalterns present, we concluded that not more than his own company were out, which is, perhaps, better than having the whole regiment present, as producing an *esprit de corps*.

Walking past the barracks, we were attracted by a most extraordinary spectacle, which we have since found to be simply the operation of a Russian bath. A whole regiment came out, carrying green boughs in their hands; on arriving at a house from which steam and smoke were issuing, they stripped perfectly naked, and entered it. After remaining

a short time, they came out, their bodies smoking, and as red as scarlet, and immediately ran into the sea, for a couple of minutes, then re-entered the house for a little while, after which they put on their clothes, and returned quite fresh to the barracks. Some, however, preferred remaining naked for a short period, on the cold and sharp rocks. Notwithstanding this attention to personal cleanliness, the rear of the barracks was in a most filthy and disgusting state.

The soldiers, when in full dress, are dreadfully drawn in above the hips, and such is the force used for the purpose, that most of them when naked we perceived were deeply indented.

We had heard so much of Sweaborg, the Gibraltar of the Baltic, that we were quite disappointed with its low situation, and at its being commanded in several points, which, of course, by no means gave us an idea of the impregnability so justly attached to the name of the latter fortress.

The bay formed by the islands of Sweaborg, is very extensive and good, being capable of holding the whole navy of Europe.

We were admitted into the fortress without difficulty. The commandant not speaking either French or English, had the goodness to send a Dutch officer who spoke both, to conduct us over the arsenal. The tomb of Ehrensward, which stands in front of the governor's house, first attracted our attention. It is perfectly simple and plain in all its parts,

except that on each end of its oblong sides, which are indented, there are short inscriptions in gilt letters, setting forth his services in the erection of the fortifications, about the year 1748, and that this monument has been raised to his memory by Gustavus III.

At the foot of the citadel is a landing-place called *La porte du roi*, because Gustavus laid the first stone, and his son, the ex-king, the last, and when at Sweaborg, they always embarked and disembarked at it.

The Swedes had begun a dock for a line-of-battle ship, which remains in an unfinished state. For smaller vessels, there are several magnificent canals, docks, and basins; some of them are covered, others are open. There are about two hundred gun-vessels, of different descriptions, most of them left by the Swedes. The store-houses, magazines, and barracks form a perfect mass of building, which, in case of a siege, would be extremely inconvenient. The *forçats* are mostly confined in old ships, fitted for the purpose. A line-of-battle ship had lately arrived from Cronstadt, for the purpose of being fitted for their accommodation. The Kamtchatka, *armé en flute*, discharging flour from Riga, was the only vessel of war in commission. The fortress is entirely garrisoned by the marine, and an admiral is governor of it, and commander-in-chief of the galley fleet; he was absent at Petersburg at the time of our visit, to answer, it is said, certain

charges brought against him by the finance minister, for permitting a contraband trade to be carried on.

Sweaborg stands on several islands, connected by bridges, and as far as guns and works avail, presents a most formidable appearance, being said to mount nearly one thousand pieces of cannon, a number, I think, much exaggerated. It yet affords a curious example of the insufficiency of the best measures which political foresight is able to provide, for it is a fact, that notwithstanding the boasted strength of these works, they have not at any time of trial, afforded the least advantage to the government which bore the expense of their erection, having been given up to Russia by treachery, both in the first and second wars of Finland. Russia, fulfilling the old adage of "liking the treason, but hating the traitor," is, in the last instance, said to have consigned him to the disgrace, poverty, and infamy, he so justly merited. Just as we were about to embark at Sweaborg, a boat landed, which was manned from the fort, and laden with a species of champignon, which the crew had been sent to collect; they appeared of that description called toads'-cups, and which, in England are considered rank poison; yet, they said, they pickled and ate them, without ever having experienced a single instance of any ill effects.

On the 3rd instant, we left Helsingfors, and Mademoiselle Chat, where we had been extremely

well treated, at a moderate price, and soon passed under a triumphal arch, erected at the last visit of the emperor. The roads were very uncertain; just before reaching Borgo, one of the horses staggered and fell down; after being detained half an hour, and on the point of leaving him behind, he recovered and took kindly to the harness.

At Borgo, a bishopric, we were detained some time, the post-master being dead, and a hearse waiting to convey him to his long home. The coffin was neat, and ornamented with a plate bearing an inscription. All the windows of the house had snow white curtains, tied with black riband; the whole, as well as the conduct of the relations, giving an idea of decent, resigned sorrow.

At about eight o'clock, we arrived at Lovisa, in order to pass the night, having been twelve hours performing sixty-six miles. The road was extremely variable, sometimes heavy sand, but in general good, with a great deal of wood, pine, fir, and birch. I have seen only two or three oaks in Finland, and those which were near Helsingfors were very small.

Mademoiselle Chat had provided us with cold mutton, off which we dined. It proved excellent; and was, indeed, the only good mutton we had tasted since leaving Denmark; the sheep in Sweden producing very bad meat.

At Lovisa, there is no good post-house, but we were well accommodated at a private dwelling be-

longing to Madame Bergman, who treated us with kindness. The town stands upon a good deal of ground, but is irregular and dirty; it has a small port, and is a station for Russian troops.

About eighteen miles from Lovisa, near Pyttis, we passed the boundary between old and new Finland, by a bridge over the river Alberfors. It is said, that the ex-king of Sweden, having caused the arms of that country to be painted on the Russian end of the bridge, it formed one of the pretexts for the war, which ultimately cost him the whole of the duchy. Twenty miles further, or near Hogfors, there is an extended line of defence kept in good order.

The peasants on this side of the line soon became remarkable by a change of dress and manner, many of them appearing quite wild. The males all wear their hair long and lank; it is generally light coloured, but the lower part, from exposure and other causes, assumes a dark, dirty, disagreeable hue.

Fredrickshamn, a fortified town, looks very well at a distance, but upon entering it, it is wofully changed. Nearly the whole of the houses were burnt on the 15th of August, last year; since which very little has been done to rebuild them, or even to clear the ruins, so that it presents one of the most melancholy spectacles it is possible to imagine. The post, as is usual in the country, was not to be approached without being knee-deep in

filth. Some Russian officers messed there, and very civilly offered us the use of their room: they said we should find Petersburg very gay, because the guards had returned, after having been sent into the country, as a punishment for daring to think for themselves.

While in conversation with an officer, another, highly decorated, entered; they immediately flew into each other's arms, and kissed both cheeks as heartily as any Frenchman would have done. It appeared that the elder was the uncle, and had unexpectedly arrived. We had excellent broth, roast beef, and bread, for dinner—far better fare than the devastation in which we found the town had led us to expect.

The evening was beautifully clear, having a bright harvest moon, with a tolerable degree of frost. At eight o'clock we arrived at Peterlax, a most miserable station. The roads throughout the day were rocky, and lay through thick woods, with hardly a field to be seen; the country people were employed in mending them, by calcining the rocks and breaking them to pieces: some of them were in large masses, partaking of the nature of brescia, or pebbles imbedded in some softer substance, which has hardened around them like mortar.

We were not a little astonished by passing, in the course of the day, no less than five carriages with either four or six horses. We found by the day-books, which begin to reckon by the old and new

styles $\frac{4}{10}$, that they belonged to the Prince of Hesse Philipstadt, the Count and Countess Nicholais, and their respective suites. Such a rencontre would not occasion surprise in England, but you must recollect we had not probably seen so many equipages since our departure from her happy shores; and, in order that you may judge of the opulence and wealth of the different countries we have passed through, I do not think I have neglected to notice any gentleman's seat, or equipage, that we have seen or come in contact with on the road. The morning of the 5th was mild, and we arose early, but in this there was no merit, for, as the house could only afford one sheet and a counterpane apiece, we had been obliged to sleep in our clothes. We arose, however, in order to visit the quarry, at two miles distance, where the extraordinarily large granite pillars for the Isaac's church at Petersburg, are procured. The road conducting to it, if road it could be called, was dreadful, and we reached the quarry at the risk of our necks, but were amply repaid for it, by finding the operation of wedging out a block of granite of fifty-six feet in length, by six feet three inches diameter, in full activity. An immense number of fellows, clothed in sheep-skins, wearing long, bushy beards, were hard at work. The operation is most tedious, as the block is obliged to be almost entirely divided from the mass, before it can be wedged out. It is however said, that the granite of Finland is not so hard, and is more

friable, than that of other countries, because, according to a certain theory, the sea having retired at a later period from the coast of the Baltic, the stone must be softer and less formed: this opinion is held by many Swedes, who pretend that the Baltic diminishes forty-five inches in depth every hundred years. Four of these pillars, already formed, were lying ready for embarkation, for which purpose the spot is admirably calculated, being within one hundred yards of the sea, with deep water close to a wharf which has been constructed, so that they are parbuckled into the vessel built for the purpose, without the slightest difficulty, and almost without force. These are, I believe, the largest columns in Europe. The quarry is most extraordinary for the extent of surface it presents without fissure; for the blocks, were they required so large, might be cut out twice the size in every way.

The huts where the workmen live, are most miserable, as indeed have been all the villages we have passed since leaving Helsingfors. We remarked only two men who appeared to possess any authority, and they were little better dressed than the commonalty. Peterlax is merely a military station: we were obliged to employ a soldier to watch our carriage during the night; he was contented with a trifling gratuity.

We dined at Kiskila, a very good post-house, and arrived at Wiborg about five o'clock.

In general, throughout the day, the roads were

good and level, but in some parts they were sandy; the changes frequently succeeding each other in short distances.

Many of the houses in Finland have no doors on the ground-floor, but a sort of balcony above, to which they ascend by a moveable ladder. This must originally have been a defensive custom: we remarked the same in some parts of Sweden and Norway; and I think it was a house so constructed which the romantic Charles defended against the Turks at Bender.

In the afternoon we turned an arm of the sea, in the latitude of sixty-one degrees north, the highest northern latitude we have reached, or are likely to reach, during our tour—the weather was mild and fine.

The peasant who attended us the last stage was intoxicated, the first instance of the kind which we have met with; however, we had not any trouble with him. During our stay at Wiborg we found drunkenness a very common vice: the morning after our arrival (Sunday), we saw a drunken young man approach two sober ones (all well dressed) with an air of familiarity, but they treated him with great contempt, apparently on account of his being in a state of inebriety—a short-lived superiority, for in the evening, as we were walking out to the southern fauxbourg, we met the moralists of the morning, reeling along as drunk as lords.

In entering Wiborg we appeared to have passed

to a different race of people in every respect. The houses were large, well white-washed, and most of them had green roofs—the churches, with cupolas painted green, were surmounted with a St. Andrew's cross and a crescent; spacious streets and squares, with a population in a costume perfectly new to us, some of the men wearing beards like Jews, and all with boots, linen trowsers, bare necks, and a long serge cloak or caftan, tied round the waist with a sash; most of them with a large black hat and buckle: old men and boys were dressed exactly in the same way. Few women were to be seen, but all of them had their hair drawn together, and curiously fastened at the top of the head, in a singular, conical roll, with a pin run through it. Some of the market women wear red baize round the tops of their heads, which gives them a very gay and animated appearance. The town is regularly fortified, and has a strong garrison: the day after our arrival we had an opportunity of seeing the troops out; they were very clean, and well dressed, but, as usual, dreadfully drawn in above the hips. Uncommon respect appeared to be exacted by the general and superior officers, not only from the men, but also from the captains and subalterns.

As at Helsingfors, we were struck by the number of prisoners that were traversing the streets, each having a soldier after him; and we find it one of the striking features even in this city, Petersburg,

so that the population appears to consist of the guarding and the guarded—the sight of a female culprit with a soldier after her, is almost as common as that of a male.

Wiborg was founded by Birger Jahl, in the thirteenth century, as a military station, that should enable him to check the increasing power of the Republic of Novgorod, so famous in those days; but in 1711, it fell into the hands of Peter the Great, who thought its possession necessary to ensure the safety of his new and favourite city of Petersburg.

The environs are a mass of rocks, detached from each other. In consequence of the general sterility, the seat and grounds of Baron Nicholais, situated at two miles from the town, are held in higher estimation than probably they would be, under other circumstances, and are much resorted to in the summer. His gardener is a Dane, and has displayed much taste in laying out the grounds, which have diversity, and are well wooded: he informed us that in summer an incision is made in the birch-tree, from which a sort of wine exudes, that is much prized, but will not keep above ten days; nearly all the trees bore evident marks of having had the operation performed upon them. The number of frogs in the wells about the garden were astonishing; one would suppose the hard frosts of winter would exterminate them—their croaking was quite annoying.

The cemetery, situated about a mile on the Petersburg road, is also a place of resort for the inhabitants on gala days, and in fine weather. It contains some large vaults, and an immense number of graves with crosses.

A Swedish gentleman who came over in the steam-boat with us, had given us a letter to a person whom he termed a *savant*, and who, he said, would be happy to afford us every kind of information: after much inquiry, we reached his house, when he proved to be a dirty, illiterate printer, and expressed great surprise at his friend's having represented him as any thing else, modestly disclaiming any other merit than that attached, in such an unenlightened country, to the giving of the lucubrations of other men's brains to the world.

Vessels of any burden cannot come up to the town, but remain at Stromstadt, a port about seven miles nearer the gulf: we took a boat and proceeded thither, where we found several English merchant-vessels waiting for cargoes of deals; they are particularly good from this part of Finland, but it would appear that they are not abundant, for some of these vessels had already been detained upwards of three weeks, although their cargoes had been ordered previously to their leaving England. The masters were exceedingly anxious, fearing lest they might be frost-bound for the winter; and their anxiety was not diminished when we told them we had already experienced the frost; they having, it ap-

pears, been exempt from it at Stromstadt. One brig for Lynn was to receive ten thousand deals twelve feet long, eleven inches broad, and one inch and three quarters thick. They are sent down so piled up in small boats rowed by two men, that were the least wind or sea to get up, they would inevitably be upset: we passed several on our return, and were surprised at their venturing out so late in the evening. The principal imports are salt and earthenware. The plates at the inn at Wiborg were all stamped, Green and Co.'s pottery, Leeds: plank is the only export. The passage is narrow in some parts; and, half way down, an island, mid-channel, is fortified. The water is sufficiently fresh to be drunk. Our boat was rowed by three men, each pulling two oars; the charge was moderate The masters of the English merchantmen informed us, that the light-houses in the Gulf of Finland were good, and very well attended to.

Our landlord, an Italian, had two accomplished daughters, who gave a concert on Sunday evening, which was attended by several officers of the garrison. He lodged and treated us very well, although at a considerably higher charge than at Helsingfors. He had a countryman, an itinerant dentist, staying with him; a personage frequently to be met with in the north of Europe, and who is generally well received in respectable families during his stay in the district.

At Wiborg we were obliged to furnish ourselves

with a *podorojne*, or order for horses, upon which it appears a certain duty is paid to government. We had intended to visit the celebrated cataract of Woxa, near Imatra ; but the days were too short to admit of our return, and there not being good accommodation for sleeping, a thing essential to my brother, who was labouring under a slight cold, we gave up the trip, and on Tuesday morning started on the Petersburg road. The weather was delightful till eight o'clock, when a haze came on which lasted the whole day, rendering it cold and uncomfortable : for the last week there had been a haze in the morning, but the sun always dissipated it between ten and eleven, when the weather became heavenly. At Krasnoje we passed a handsome looking church, and a large private house, with pretty grounds.

At Pampala, two really pretty, and neatly dressed young women smiled and ogled to such a degree, that I was induced to enter their house, upon which they ran off in the greatest possible state of alarm. In the evening we came to Rajajoki, the last station in Finland, where we found good accommodation, with clean beds. The road through the day was generally sandy and bad, and the country was covered with young trees. The post-houses were generally such as one might have passed the night in, and we found them warm : the weather was cold, yet the post-boys and men were running about very thinly clad, some with only a frock, a shirt,

and trowsers, the two former hanging down over the latter: they all wear thick, bushy hair, cut short round the neck, which is generally shaved; many wore sandals made of the birch bark. Some of the children were running about very nearly in a state of nudity; we also remarked with surprise a painting of some saint, with a light burning before it, in every post-house: horses were plenty. We passed a good many soldiers marching to the westward; they had very little baggage, and appeared much fatigued: one pulled off his boot (for they all wear boots), and exposed his foot wrapped up in an old rag, for want, as we supposed, of a stocking, but we have since found it is the general substitute with every Russian who is not above a menial capacity.

On Wednesday, at eight o'clock, we started, and passing a handsome bridge thrown over the river, we found ourselves in the government of Petersburg, and on a paved *chaussée*, as in France, which continued as far as Dranischnikoff, where we discovered that the bolt which confines the right spring had been shook out, so that the box was quite displaced. The post-house did not appear to offer any resource, and I began to think we should be detained for the night, when an old fellow, with a gray head, and long, black beard like an Algerine, came out with some rusty screw bolts and nuts, and after a time, to my infinite delight, put every thing in order. Our *podorojne*, was for the first time entered in a book at Belostroff, and the postilion insisted upon dis-

carding our harness (which had served all the way from Helsingborg) and driving himself, mounted on the box: as he was a very lusty fellow, his additional weight, in all probability, had broken the bolt. Our luggage also underwent an examination *pro forma*, the custom-house officer receiving a douceur, and behaving very civilly; but after we had started, having a qualm of conscience, he came running after us, and making many apologies, said he must look into our hat-boxes; they being deal ones with brass padlocks, and being behind the carriage, had probably attracted his attention, and excited suspicion of merchandise.

At twelve versts, or eight miles' distance, we perceived this celebrated city, when the road instantly became the worst we had ever traversed, sandy and wide, like those of the north of Germany, but infinitely more cut up—sometimes sand, sometimes stones, sometimes mud, sometimes wood, then deep ruts frequently running at right angles to each other, so that it was with the greatest difficulty we could make any progress through the wild, uncultivated tract, that lasted till we absolutely entered the wooden suburbs. These, for want of pavement, were lined with planks, at least the sides for foot passengers, the centre being ankle deep in mud; nor do I conceive it possible for any entrance to a capital to raise the expectation less. Judge, therefore, our surprise and pleasure, when, in one instant, the view of the winter-palace, the spires of the Admiralty,

and of the fortress, the Neva, the bridges, innumerable domes, and large buildings broke upon us, as if by enchantment. Crossing the bridge at the summer-garden, we at once found ourselves upon a most magnificent, granite quay, passing along which, and by the statue erected to the memory of Suvarof, we were soon well lodged in a clean hotel, kept by an American of the name of Page, who is married to a fine country-woman of our own. We immediately got good rooms, and sat down to an excellent dinner, in company with about forty persons, many of whom were officers in the Imperial Guards.

But as I am sure your patience must be, by this time, quite exhausted, I will lay down my pen, and not resume it again till better acquainted with this city, its inhabitants, their manners and customs, till when, Adieu.

LETTER X.

Foundation of St. Petersburg—Character of Peter the Great—Motives for building the City—Climate of Petersburg—Woods and Marshes—Russian Prejudices in favour of Moscow—Topography of Petersburg—Course of the Neva—Monastery of St. Alexander—Nevsky—Voskrenskoi Monastery—Gulf of Cronstadt—The Neva—Granite Quays—English Merchants and the Emperor Paul—Perspectives—Nevsky Perspective—Moika, Katarina, and Fonlanka Canals—Bridges—Private Houses—Imperial Winter Palace—Hermitage—Marble Palace—Crescent—College of Foreign Affairs—Senate—Loan-Bank—Admiralty—Russian Foot-Pavement—St. Isaac's Church—Summer Gardens—Emperor Paul's Vision of St. Michael—Vasilly-ostrof—Exchange—Academy of Sciences—Custom-House—Magazines—Citadel—Church of St. Paul and St. Peter—Russian Costumes—Droskies—Isvoschtschiks—Russian Saints—Gostennoi-dvor—Bazaar—Louse Market—Statue of Peter the Great—Huge Block of Granite.

St. Petersburg, $\frac{13}{25}$rd November, 1822.

BEFORE I proceed to make you acquainted with the inhabitants, and with the interior of the houses and public buildings of this new and beautiful city, it will be preferable, perhaps, to review its origin, foundation, situation, and progressive improvement.

It is situated upon the shores of the Neva, near the Gulf of Finland, and is built partly on some islands in the mouth of that river, and partly on the continent.

Peter the Great had many reasons for founding his new city. His principal motive was that of rendering it the emporium of Russian commerce, and the result has proved his design to have been most judicious: its wisdom appears to have been

fully acknowledged by all parties up to the present moment. His second reason was, by making it the seat of government, to demonstrate to the world his determination, never to cede or restore the conquered provinces which border on the Gulf of Finland. He wished also to convince the Swedes (who had been the greatest thorn in his side) that he was no longer vulnerable in that quarter; for, by his personal residence, he drew towards the spot the most powerful of his nobles, and, by distributing possessions to his Russian subjects in the conquered districts, he insensibly created a Russian interest in them to the exclusion of that of Sweden. A third, and perhaps paramount reason was, to attract foreigners into his dominions, for the purpose of accelerating the civilization of his subjects. This extremely laudable design would naturally be favoured by giving to travellers an easy access to Russia, by a short and not expensive voyage to the capital, from whence, under favour of the sovereign, they might penetrate into the most remote districts of his immense empire; for, once having undergone his ordeal, they would everywhere be received without jealousy or suspicion. To enter by a frontier, and then make their way to Moscow, was at all times disheartening, as well as attended with much expense, time, and trouble.

To accomplish these great and patriotic objects, Peter had to surmount every difficulty which nature, and the most inveterate prejudices of his subjects could oppose. He had one, and only one ally, in this

great design, namely, the beautiful, limpid Neva, which afforded all the facilities he desired for the commercial prosperity of his new city, and supplied the purest and most wholesome water for the use of the inhabitants whenever it should be populated. Obstinately adhering to whatever purpose he once resolved upon, and with no ordinary mind to overcome difficulties, Peter commenced his project of founding a city, destined to supersede ancient Moscow, on a spot which possessed not one of the many local advantages of this ancient capital, nor any superiority of site, except its facility of commerce with the Baltic. The islands formed by the different branches of the river, and the banks on which he purposed to found Petersburg, were complete morasses and impervious forests, both engendering the most unhealthy air, and the former presenting certainly the most unfavourable and improper foundation for heavy buildings. The climate, probably the most unpleasant on the face of the globe, would alone have deterred any other man from the undertaking, but perhaps he hoped, and not unreasonably, that by draining the morasses, and clearing the forests, a favourable change might be wrought in the atmosphere. In some measure, perhaps, this improvement of the climate may have been produced, although not sufficiently to remove from it the stigma of being extremely variable, and, except when the really dry, sharp frost sets in, disagreeable and unhealthy. By a late calculation, taken on an average of ten years, it appears that

Petersburg has annually one hundred and four days of rain, seventy-two of snow, ninety-two unsettled, and of course only ninety-seven bright days. There are every year from twelve to sixty-seven storms, which, sometimes, when they proceed from the west, occasion inundations. The ice of the Neva never breaks up before the 25th of March, and never later than the 27th of April; the earliest time of its freezing is the 20th of October, and the latest the 1st of December, O. S. Since the year 1741, the greatest degree of heat has been 27°, and the greatest degree of cold 33°, by Reaumur's thermometer. From the above statement it is too clear that the climate still forms a great obstacle to the prosperity of the city. But every difficulty which genius and art, aided by the most powerful resources and energies, could possibly subdue, was overcome by Peter, and to the astonishment of Europe, the superb city, bearing its founder's name, reared its proud head, though at an expense of life, money, and labour, which would have ruined any other monarch However, this great projector remained solvent, and in reward, the riches of the world soon paid homage to the new city; while, in gratitude, she liberally diffused the inexhaustible and valuable treasures which had heretofore remained uselessly buried in the bosom of the extensive Russian empire, or, as it had been called, Russian Dukedom.

Peter's comprehensive mind embraced every thing

requisite for giving stability and permanency to this favourite child of his genius. The naval establishment at Cronstadt was founded, and canals of communication between all the great rivers of the empire were traced out; but, as if he had done enough to immortalize himself, and was bound to leave something for his successors to perform, providence cut him off in little more than the prime of his life, and certainly, when not more than half advanced in the fulfilment of the schemes which he had formed for the benefit of his empire. My object is rather with his city than with his reign, or I should be tempted to speculate a little upon the motives of some of the latest acts of it; particularly his conduct towards his unfortunate son, which is still involved in considerable mystery, though I am inclined to attribute it to his but half-tamed spirit. But, to return to Petersburg: his successors appear all to have blindly followed his policy, and to have sacrificed every other consideration to the embellishment and beautifying of a city which ought now to be only the first commercial town, occasionally the imperial residence, and not the permanent capital of the empire, to the disadvantage of Moscow. The situation of this latter city, in almost the centre of the empire, together with the ancient predilections which all Russians entertain in its favour, naturally point it out as the legitimate capital. Indeed, neither Peter nor Catharine II. with all their absolute, despotic power

on all other subjects, were able to obtain for the recent creation of Peter, more than the title of "The Residence;" and, although bold enough to order that they should be interred there, none of the sovereigns have dared to risk their title to the throne, by having the ceremony of coronation performed any where but in the ancient capital of the Czars.

From all I can learn, there is a great desire that the imperial family should reside at Moscow, as well as an opinion, that commerce would thrive better here were it less fettered by imperial presence, by imperial courtiers, and imperial troops, all of whom now tend to throw the humble merchant into the shade. At the commencement of Petersburg, the support and countenance of the emperor and court were necessary to uphold and bring forth the mercantile character—a character till then almost unheard of in the imperial dominions. Peter is well known to have courted the society and information of merchants, as much as both are now looked down upon with contempt.

Although Peter marked out the principal streets and buildings of his new town, and probably foresaw the substantial edifices which would in time be erected, yet, most of the buildings of his own constructing were of wood. These having gone to decay, have only of late years been allowed to be re-built of brick, so that, although in the suburbs and distant quarters log-houses are still to be

met with, yet in the principal streets, or perspectives, as they are called, none but substantial houses of brick stuccoed are to be seen; the aspect is therefore elegant and cheerful.

Straight, broad, and generally long streets frequently intersecting each other at acute angles; spacious squares; a great variety in the architecture of the houses; the numerous canals, and the beautiful river Neva; the two latter with their substantial and elegant embankments, render the general view extremely striking. The main streets usually swarm with carriages and foot passengers while the others are almost lifeless. This proceeds from the spaciousness and extent of the city, as well as from the inclemency of the climate. Early in the evening the streets are void of people; the lower classes commonly leave off work at the approach of darkness, and all the shops are closed.

Petersburg is so sub-divided by the different branches of the Neva, and as all the divisions bear particular names, it will be absolutely necessary to endeavour to make you acquainted with them, in order to prevent confusion in the description of the city, which I am about to attempt.

At Petersburg the Neva forms an angle, its course running first north and then west. In this angle, and on the left side of the Neva lies, in figure approaching to a triangle, the most considerable part of the city. The monastery of St. Alexander Nevsky forms the commencement of it, at the

northern direction of the river, following which we come to the Voskrenskoi monastery, at which the Neva alters its course to the westward, to its exit into the Gulf of Cronstadt, and forms the second side of the triangle; the third side, a space from the exit of the Neva to the Nevsky monastery, is constituted partly by the town ditch, and partly by the Ligova canal.

Near Okta, and almost opposite to the Voskrenskoi monastery, the Neva on its right side, sends out broad arms, the first, called the Nevka, and the second, the Little Nevka; these, together with the Neva, form three islands called the Vzborgside, Peter's Island, or quarter, and the Vassilly-ostrof, the whole city being contained in a circuit of little less than twenty-four versts, or sixteen English miles, and being quite open, having on the land side no other boundary than the town ditch, and the solitary Riga Gate.

The whole of the left bank of the Neva which is about one hundred and eighty fathoms wide, (nearly the width of the Thames at Waterloo bridge), with eight and ten feet depth of water, is furnished with a quay of granite, uninterrupted, except at the admiralty building slips. The height of the quay, which is raised on piles, is ten feet above the ordinary water level, having a good foot pavement, and a parapet towards the river. At stated distances, are double flights of steps, for landing and taking up water, having

semi-circular seats at top, for the repose of passengers: the whole is of hewn granite. On the quay, and facing the river, stand the imperial winter palace, the Hermitage, and on either side of them is a row of houses, reaching the whole extent of the quay, and which, perhaps, in size and magnificence, are not to be equalled. The whole façade, together with the noble floating bridges, magnificent river, the fortress, the admiralty, the two last with their high and gilt spires, and the stately public buildings on the Wiborg and Petersburg sides, forms a *coup d'œil* not to be surpassed by any thing in ancient or modern history. The quay above the palace is called the Russian, and that below, the English quay. The latter name is given to it, because the large houses on it were originally built, and inhabited by wealthy English merchants. I lament to say, that very few of them have been able to retain their houses, but have gradually ceded them to the Russian nobility, and, in some instances, to German merchants, while they have themselves been obliged to retire into secondary streets, particularly one called the Back Line. This falling off in our merchants, so annoying to British feelings, may be attributed to various causes; but, I believe, principally to the severe treatment they met with at the hands of Paul, in 1800, and to the subsequent war between Great Britain and Russia, which obliged them to leave the country. These changes so disgusted them, that when peace was re-

stored, the principals of the firms did not choose to return and again subject themselves to similar treatment, but sent junior partners, or even managing clerks, who were not entitled to, nor could they afford, such sumptuous residences, and, I fear, there is too much reason for supposing that the stability and credit of the English mercantile houses have sunk in proportion as the respectable appearance of their dwelling-houses has declined: indeed, it could hardly be expected to be otherwise; for, surely, the head of a house is always better calculated to support its dignity and appearance, than a junior partner or clerk.

However, there are still some mercantile houses as respectable as any which are to be found in Europe, and they yet retain possession of dwellings on the quay, particularly the houses of Thornton and Melville, Thompson, Bonner, and Venning. The first is conducted by Mr. Henry Caley, one of the most intelligent merchants I have met with in any country, possessing not only mercantile but general information. I fortunately brought out a letter of credit to him, and also one to Mr. Lewis, an American (the only one settled here), who has got into an extraordinary line of commission business, not only for his own country, but for England. It is said, that the whole of the late extraordinarily mad and disastrous tallow speculation passed through his hands; a speculation blindly entered into, at the moment when every English merchant ought patriotically to have discountenanced Russian com-

merce as much as possible, in order to show the government the impolicy of its late unjust and ruinous tarif.

There are three principal streets which are called Perspectives, because, from all points of view, they afford a prospect of the Admiralty's gilded spire, from the square before which they branch off as from one common centre, much in the fashion of the sticks of a fan. Of these streets, the Nevsky Perspective is the principal: it runs in a direct line, one little turn excepted, as far as the Alexander Nevski monastery, and in breadth and length, it may more than vie with the finest streets in Europe. The length is more than four versts, or nearly three miles, and the breadth is nearly thirty fathoms, or one hundred and eighty feet, having walks lined with trees, besides good *trottoirs*. The numerous hotels and shops in this street, occasion such a confluence of people, and such a constant scene of activity, that they give it a consequence which is wanting to most parts of Petersburg. It is also remarkable, as elucidating the toleration which is allowed in Russia to every sect: Catholics, Lutherans, and various other sects of protestants, as well as Armenians and Greeks, have in this street their several churches near each other.

The Perspectives, and, indeed, the whole of the city on the left bank of the Neva, are intersected by three principal canals, forming the same number of irregular semi-circles one within the other. The first, or interior, is called the Moika canal; the se-

cond, the Katarina; and the exterior, or larger one, the Fontanka. These canals are extremely useful as well as ornamental; they are crossed by means of light bridges, some of wood, others of granite: the former are known by the name of the colour with which they were originally painted. Some of the arches are at very acute angles, which affords the best reason I can hear of, for the extreme length of the traces which attach the leading horses to gentlemen's carriages. It is in order to enable them to get over the ridge before the wheelers come upon it: as it is, the speed of even a light carriage is generally arrested at these bridges.

The principal houses, as I before observed, are generally built of brick stuccoed, and usually consist of only two stories. There are some houses of an extraordinary height, but the same elevation which in London is sufficient for five stories, is here employed for two. Most of the private houses have a basement story, rising but little above the level of the pavement, and which is fitted up as apartments for the servants, or let out as lavkas or shops: this basement is frequently built of granite. The fronts of the houses are in excellent style, and display extraordinary taste. The outsides are washed with some particular colour which must be renewed, at least once a year, so that they have always a fresh and gay appearance: the coverings, or roofs, are of sheet iron or copper, painted usually green or red. Convenience and luxury are much studied, and, indeed, this is rendered neces-

sary by the severity of the climate. Almost all the principal dwelling-houses have a vaulted gateway, under which, protected from every kind of weather, the family get into or alight from their carriages. They have also spacious court-yards, able to contain several hundred fathoms of wood, and yet leave room enough for the waiting equipages of the company. They have broad, stone stair-cases, and ante-chambers, where the guests on arriving in winter throw off their shubes, caps, boots, and gloves, *&c.*, all lined with fur, before they enter the drawing-room, where they appear as light and as tightly dressed as is usual with our own beaux in summer. Before leaving the antechamber to enter their carriages, they again assume a garb which would entitle them to be taken for bears.

In order to simplify the regulations of the police, the city is divided into several quarters, or, according to the Russian terms, quartals. The streets mostly run in direct lines, intersecting each other at various angles, which, with the different styles of architecture, and coloured fronts, gives a pleasing variety, to be met with in no other city. Vassilly-ostrof, however, forms an exception to this remark; for it is composed of three long, parallel streets, intersected by twelve parallel streets, called lines, and numbered accordingly, producing a very tedious mass of dull regularity.

The first Admiralty Quartal, nearly in the centre of the city, is the smallest, but it is that in which luxury and wealth have established their head-

quarters. It contains the principal imperial palaces, and the residences of the nobility, as well as the most striking public buildings, and, therefore, deserves particular notice.

The imperial winter palace is of colossal dimensions, having a façade of four hundred and fifty feet, with a depth of three hundred and fifty. The outside of this palace which, including the Hermitage, occupies the space of a small town, is imposing, from its gigantic proportions, but it is not remarkable for any elegance of architecture. In point of congruity it may vie with the Tuileries, and in size, almost with the latter and the Louvre united.

Its height is seventy-five feet, yet it comprises only a basement floor, with one grand story and an *entre-sol.*

The lower story, from the multitude of intersecting arches and colonades, forms a perfect labyrinth; and from many of them being dark, and none more than half illuminated, the grand flight of marble steps and the main story are rendered in appearance the more extensive and magnificent.

To the eastern side of this palace is annexed the Hermitage, the treasures of which I shall take another opportunity of noticing. It was raised by Elizabeth, but brought to perfection and first inhabited by Catharine II., who ended her days in it, on the 4th of November, 1796.

At no great distance stands the Marble Palace of three stories, built for the favourite Gregory Orlof,

but bestowed by Paul on Stanislaus Poniatofsky, the dethroned king of Poland, who there terminated his mortal and troublesome career. It at present belongs to the Grand Duke Constantine, who permits it to be occupied by some of his favourites; amongst others, by Orlosky, of whom I shall hereafter have occasion to speak more fully.

The Crescent, the College of Foreign Affairs, the Senate, and the Loan-bank, are some of the public buildings which deserve to be reckoned among the most remarkable objects of this quarter of the city. But the Admiralty, from which it derives its title, will naturally claim attention, though, with the exception of its fine, lofty, gilt spire, from which may be obtained a view of the whole city, the building has nothing to recommend it to notice. It was originally surrounded on the land side, by an earthen rampart, mounting one hundred pieces of ordnance; but during the present reign they have been displaced, the ramparts levelled, the ditch filled up, and a beautiful promenade with trees formed, and which is fashionably attended. Pedestrianism, indeed, is quite the mode with the higher classes, since good *trottoirs* have been introduced in all the principal streets. The emperor was so much struck with their convenience during his visit to London, in 1814, that on his return, he immediately ordered them to be laid down in Petersburg. A certain time was allowed to the householders to flag the space appertaining to them, or opposite to their houses, and at the expiration of which, if the

work was not completed, the police saved them all farther trouble, by having it done for them, but at a great cost. The job, from the suddenness of the order, and the difficulty of procuring materials, is said to have been extremely vexatious at the time; but the improvement is so great that all are now satisfied at the regulation, and a lively alteration has been brought about in the town by the open display of beauty and fashion: a perfect change has also taken place in the habits of females, by which their health is much promoted.

The only grand church in this quarter is that dedicated to St. Isaac, which was intended by the late empress to be the most superb in her dominions. At her decease, it had been twenty-six years in progress, and was finished to the top of the walls, and a beginning had been made with the dome, all the materials being granite or marble. Her son and successor, impatient to see the edifice complete, caused it to be hastily finished of brick, which gave rise to a celebrated Russian distich, which in plain English says, "Of two reigns behold the emblem, the one of brick, the other of stone;" but of this hereafter, as well as of the noble statue of the founder of the city, which is placed between this church and the river.

The last object in this quarter is the summer-garden, resembling, in some measure, that of the Tuileries at Paris. In the season from which it takes its name, it is said to be well filled with com-

pany, though, I suppose, owing to the unsettled state of the weather since our arrival, it has been perfectly deserted, and we have never seen half a dozen persons in it. It is surrounded by an elegant, indeed magnificent, balustrade. Paul intended to build a church near this garden, in honour of the archangel Michael, whom he declared, in an imperial Ukaz, had appeared to him in a vision, and commanded him to do so.

Vassilly-ostrof is the seat of commerce and of learning. The Exchange and the Academy of Sciences stand on this island; both buildings being conspicuous by their chastness and beauty of architecture.

In this district are also the Custom-house, and immense magazines for the reception of merchandise. There is likewise a very good wharf, which is lined with vessels of small burden, and with lighters; the whole, upon our first arrival, presented a very bustling scene of commercial activity, but which the approach of winter soon put a stop to. As this quay is on the side of the island furthest from the Admiralty quarter, a stranger living there would have no more idea that any commerce was carried on at Petersburg by means of shipping, than a stranger arriving in London, and taking up his abode in one of the squares at the west end of the town, would have of what is going forward in Thames Street, and below London bridge. I firmly believe many foreigners, as well as native Russians

visit Petersburg, without once repairing to the spot occupied by that commerce, for the sake of which, in point of fact, Peter founded the city.

The Petersburg quarter, consisting of many islands, is remarkable as the part first occupied by the immortal founder, and the wooden cottage in which he dwelt during the progress of the city, is carefully preserved from the weather and consequent decay, by having a brick building erected over it.

The Citadel occupies another island: Peter commenced it in 1703. Its ramparts were then and long afterwards of earth; but Catharine II. caused it to be lined with masonry, and blocks of granite. In the centre of the citadel is the church of St. Peter and St. Paul, the spire of which, gilt with ducat gold, stands a proud rival to that of the Admiralty; both owe their origin to Peter, and are the most striking and beautiful objects from every part of the Residence. That of the citadel possesses a clock, the only public one that I have observed since our arrival.

Many pretty seats are scattered on these different islands, which are said to be much frequented in summer. One barren island has very judiciously been dedicated to the reception of hemp, and is entirely built over with warehouses, so that the possibility of fire is guarded against as far as human prudence can suggest; but even in case of such a calamity, which sometimes happens, without any

adequate, known cause, the city can run no risk of conflagration.

You now have a tolerably good idea of the topography of this beautiful city, which may, comparatively speaking, be said to have risen as if by enchantment at the command of Peter; for it is asserted, upon good authority, that a man who assisted him in laying the foundation of the citadel, lived to witness the inauguration of the statue erected by Catharine in 1782, to commemorate his great achievements, and which certainly were never surpassed in magnitude, during the life of one individual.

I shall now proceed to describe to you the objects which most particularly struck us upon our peregrinations, the day after our arrival. My first notice shall be of the common or lower class of people. The men wear long beards, with their bushy hair cut even with the nape of the neck, all below which is closely shaven: no neck-handkerchief is worn, and, consequently, the neck and throat are left exposed to the inclemency of the weather.

Their dress consists of a long coat, of a dark colour, reaching to the calves of the legs, sitting close to the body, with a great number of gathers at the bottom of the waist, and lapping over the bosom like our double-breasted coats; about the middle is a sash tightly tied, in which are tucked their gloves, whip, axe, or tools.

Instead of a shirt they wear a vest usually of striped linen, which is not, as with all other people, tucked inside of the trowsers, but hangs over them. The trowsers are usually made of linen, and extremely loose.

With the use of stockings they are totally unacquainted, wrapping their feet in linen rags, which are covered by boots; or the feet are protected by shoes, or rather sandals, of matted linder bark, or leather, without buckles or ties.

The head is covered with a broad-brimmed, shallow crowned hat, with a large buckle in front. Latterly, since the cold weather has set in, we have remarked the hat to be exchanged for a fur cap, and the coat for a sheep-skin *shube*, which is confined round the waist in a similar manner to the coat.

Women are not frequently met with in the streets: they wear the ordinary female gown, and the vest without sleeves. The head is not inelegantly enveloped in a handkerchief: in general they have very few feminine attributes in their dress or appearance.

The width and cleanliness of the streets, with an apparent want of population and bustle, were particularly striking, though occasionally a coach and four, and a passing *drosky*, attracted our attention. The former excited our notice, from two peculiarities; first, a very small postilion riding on the off horse (of course he mounts awkwardly between the two), and constantly calling out with all his might

a prava, or keep to the right; and second, the extreme length of the traces for the leaders, by which they frequently appear round a corner a considerable time before the wheel-horses. The horses in general are wretched, but this is not the case with those in the *droskies* of the rich, as they are remarkably fine animals. The one in shafts trots and does all the work; the other is literally for show: it is on the near side, and is taught to prance, and to be in appearance constantly attempting to bite its left knee—a practice which at first gives an idea of the animal being in great pain and under restraint. I think severe measures must be resorted to in order to make them acquire and continue so unnatural a practice. The shaft horse has an arc or bow over his head, from which there is a bearing-rein; it is light and elegant, but at first sight has a strange appearance. The *drosky* consists of a bench with springs under it, and cushions upon it, on four wheels, at one end of which is the horse (the common ones have only one), and just behind him sits the *isvoschtschik*, or driver. They are in other respects constructed in various styles, according to the fancy of the owner. Some are with elbows, either only on one side, or on both, contrived in such a manner, that one person sitting on it looks to the right, and the other to the left. Some have rests for the feet, and leathern flaps to guard the legs from the dirt; others again, though very few, have a tester, or head, like our one horse chaises; several have only backs,

and some are quite plain. Those at the service of the public are in the simplest form. Two persons at most can sit on them besides the *isvoschtschik*. The greatest advantage is the uncommon lightness of the vehicle, but this by no means makes up for its inconveniences and defects. Having no covering, and frequently affording no protection from the dirt, the rider is entirely exposed to the weather and to be splashed all over. The want of sides and back, and the jolting experienced in driving, whence they obtained the name of *drosky*, may render an excursion on them extremely beneficial to the health; but for people who use this carriage otherwise than for exercise, the motion is absolutely tormenting: of late years many of them are improved in point of comfort. To all these disagreeable circumstances must be added the horrid vicinity of the *isvoschtschik*, who, especially during the fast days, is particularly offensive to the olfactory nerves: they wear a plate of tin on their backs, on which is inscribed their number, and it is in fact their license. The religious fervour with which they, and all the common people, cross themselves on passing a church, or the painting of a saint, made us fancy ourselves in a strict Roman Catholic country. Every house and shop has its protecting saint, a painting before which a light is kept constantly burning, and no person can with propriety remain covered in its presence, so that although a foreigner, on entering a shop, you are obliged to pull off your hat: it is said that the

emperor himself never violates this decorum. At first we frequently gave offence by our non-observance of the ceremony, till a friend pointed out the cause. Notwithstanding this blind adoration of their saints, the worship of graven images is strictly forbidden by their religion.

The river and canals, with immense barges and floats of fine woods and floating hay-stacks, as well as the fish boats, like canal passage vessels, are particularly novel to a stranger, as are also to an Englishman the immense number of prisoners of both sexes, that are to be met with in nearly every street, guarded by one or more soldiers. At every corner there is a watch-house, to which are attached three police-men, armed with halberts, and one of them must be constantly, day and night, on the look-out; and in every quarter there is a round tower, from the top of which a man is constantly on the watch, to give an alarm in case of a fire breaking out.

For ourselves, we have met with nothing but civility, attention, and accommodation from the police; but it is said they are sometimes extremely troublesome, and, indeed, at this moment an Englishman is a good deal annoyed, because he will not give any other account of himself than that he is an English gentleman; they do not understand the title, and want to know its relative rank in the army, but of this more hereafter.

The Gostennoi-dvor, or great bazaar, in the Nevsky

Perspective, soon attracted our notice. The whole building is in length a hundred and fifty fathoms, the side towards the Perspective is a hundred, and the opposite one fifty; it is therefore in the form of an irregular triangle, and it is skirted on all sides by large streets. The shops, in number three hundred and forty, are disposed in two series, one above the other, and before them run arcades for the convenience of walking in all weathers. The shops that deal in the same kind of commodities are all placed together. The great extent, and the swarms of people about it, give this market the appearance of a small town. It would be extremely difficult to think of an article in the whole catalogue of necessaries and conveniences, and, generally speaking, even of luxuries, that could be asked for here in vain; and contrary to the indifference towards customers, so much complained of in the tradesmen of Sweden, not only are the shopkeepers most anxious to serve you, but each shop is attended by a lad, whose duty it is, to invite you by every art of persuasion to enter and purchase; he accosts every person who passes with [illegible] what do you wish to have? No fire is allowed, nor do any people sleep in the shops; but at night, dogs are turned out under the arcades, fastened by a piece of cord, which travels by a ring on a rope, so as to enable each dog to guard the space of two shops. It must be remarked that other bazaars or gostennoi-dvors are as disgustingly dirty and revolting as this is clean and inviting

They sell every kind of old materials, and one is even called the louse-market.

You may be assured we did not allow the first day to pass without a visit to the celebrated statue of Peter the Great, which, in itself, certainly more than equalled my warmest imagination; but with the much boasted rock on which it is placed, I was quite disappointed. It is by no means sufficiently stupendous, and is tame, from the too liberal use of the chisel; but Coxe's account of it is so very correct, that I cannot do better than follow his description. "One of the noblest monuments of the gratitude and veneration paid to Peter the Great, is the equestrian statue of that monarch in bronze; it is of a colossal size, and is the work of Monsieur Falconet, the celebrated French statuary, cast at the expense of Catharine II., in honour of her great predecessor, whom she reveres and imitates. It represents that monarch in the act of mounting a precipice, the summit of which he has nearly attained. He appears crowned with laurel, in a loose Asiatic vest, and sitting on a housing of bear-skin, his right hand is stretched out as in the act of giving benediction to his people, and his left holds the reins. The design is masterly, and the attitude is bold and spirited. If there be any defect in the figure, it consists in the flat position of the right hand (this by no means struck us as a defect), and for this reason the view of the left side is the most striking, where the whole appearance is

graceful and animated: the horse is rearing upon its hind legs, and its tail which is full and flowing, slightly touches a bronze serpent, artfully contrived to assist in supporting the vast weight of the statue in the due equilibrium. The artist has, in this noble essay of his genius, represented Peter as the legislator of his country, without any allusion to conquest and bloodshed, wisely preferring his civil qualities to his military exploits. The contrast between the composed tranquillity of Peter (though perhaps not absolutely characteristic), and the fire of the horse, eager to press forward, is very striking. The simplicity of the inscription corresponds to the sublimity of the design, and is far preferable to a pompous detail of exalted virtues which the voice of flattery applies to every sovereign without distinction. It is elegantly finished in brass characters:—

Petro Primo.
Catharina Secunda,
1782.

But here I must differ from Coxe, because the brass letters by no means partake of the stability or permanence of the rock; on the contrary, they are perishable, and likely to be detached from it, by time or accident; indeed, this is, at the present moment, but too apparent; for notwithstanding the iron railing round it, and a guard close by, three of the letters have disappeared, leaving the inscription incomplete. Surely the letters ought to have been

so deeply cut into the rock itself, as to have been obliterated only by the destruction of the mass. Had the ancients not followed this plan, how would the antiquary be able ever to discover to what subject the many valuable monuments which are every day found in the bosom of the earth had been devoted; perhaps, to deeply engraved characters on imperishable marble, we are more indebted for a knowledge of ancient history and events, than to any other cause whatever. When Falconet had conceived the design of his statue, the base of which was to be formed by a huge rock, he carefully examined the environs of Petersburg, in order to ascertain if among the detached pieces of granite which are scattered about these parts, one could be found of magnitude corresponding to the dimensions of the equestrian figure. After considerable search, he discovered a stupendous mass half buried in the midst of a morass. The expense and difficulty of transporting it were no obstacles to Catharine. By her order the morass was immediately drained, a road was cut through a forest, and carried over the marshy ground, and the stone which, after it had been somewhat reduced, weighed fifteen hundred tons, was removed to Petersburg.

This, more than Roman work, in less than six months from the time of the first discovery of the block, was accomplished by windlasses, and by means of friction balls of brass fifteen inches in circumference, placed and removed in grooves fixed

on each side of the road. In this manner it was drawn with forty men seated upon its top, about four miles to the banks of the Neva; there it was embarked in a vessel constructed on purpose to receive it, and thus was it conveyed about the same distance by water to the spot where it now stands. When landed at Petersburg it was about forty-two feet long at the base, and thirty-six at the top; twenty-one thick, and seventeen high, a bulk greatly surpassing in weight the most boasted monuments of Roman grandeur, which, according to the fond admirers of antiquity, would have baffled the skill of modern mechanics, and were alone sufficient to render celebrated the reigns of the most degenerate or most depraved emperors.

The pedestal, however, though still of prodigious magnitude, is far from retaining its original dimensions, as, in order to form a proper station for the statue, and to represent an ascent, the summit of which the horse is endeavouring to attain, its bulk has been necessarily diminished. But I could not observe without regret, that the artist, in the true style of his countrymen, has been desirous to improve upon nature; for in order to produce a resemblance to an abrupt broken precipice, he has been too lavish of the chisel, making his art too conspicuous. The effect would have been far more sublime, if the stone had been left as much as possible in its rude state, a vast, unwieldy, stupendous mass; indeed, they reduced it so much, that it

has been found necessary to add two pieces to it. Its height is now sixteen feet, and that of the statue ten. The completion was effected on the 27th of August, 1782. The ceremony was performed with great solemnity, and was accompanied by a solemn inauguration. At the same time the empress issued a proclamation, in which, among other instances of her clemency, she pardoned all criminals under sentence of death, all deserters who should return to their respective corps within a limited time, and released all criminals condemned to hard labour, provided they had not been guilty of murder. According to a calculation, it appears that the whole expense incurred was four hundred and twenty-five thousand rubles. While at the statue, we had an opportunity of seeing the Isaac church. As I before observed, Catharine intended it to be the most superb of all the churches in the capital, and pursued her object *secundum artem*, that is, of course, forming, first of all, the suitable, pile foundation: at her death, Paul hastily finished it in brick, by which he made it appear ridiculous. Alexander, forcibly struck with the incongruity, determined not only to fulfil his grandmother's intentions, but even to exceed them. He accordingly directed the brick-work to be demolished, the foundation to be extended, and a considerable enlargement of the building to be made. At this moment the extraordinary granite-quarry at Peterlax having been discovered, it was determined to increase the scale

in every respect, so as to bring the colossal pillars, before alluded to, into harmony with the general design. After an infinite deal of labour in adding to the size of the church, and in preparing twenty of these extraordinary columns, somebody suggested the inquiry whether the foundation was calculated to support the additional weight, and even if it were, whether it was not a dangerous experiment to build a whole structure upon piles which had been driven at very distant periods, and which, in all probability, from that circumstance, would settle differently under similar degrees of pressure, because the old ones had had, for many years, to support a weight which had probably brought them to their greatest depth, whereas the new ones would naturally sink lower, from the greater weight placed on them, and from their more recent introduction. These objections carried such reason with them, that the further progress of the work was arrested (except the preparing of materials), and the question as to the propriety of continuing the building is said to have been proposed to all the learned societies of Europe. In the mean time the church remains dilapidated and roofless. In examining the columns, we should hardly have recognised them as the same kind we had seen in Finland, they having received such exquisite chiseling and polishing; none of them are erected, but are lying under the work-sheds.

The soldiers of the Imperial Guard belonging to the regiment of Pierre Paul, struck us particularly as clean, good-looking men, but they were not large; their caps are like those of mountebanks, presenting the same appearance behind as in front. Several of them have holes through the plates, either real or fictitious, being meant to indicate their having been hit somewhere in battle. We wished to have seen the guard mount, but the parade took place in the winter exercising-house, an immense building from which strangers are excluded.

We have, in compliance with custom, taken a coach and four, and have hired an intelligent Englishman (who has been fifteen years in the country) as a servant. We lodge at Page's, and have three excellent rooms. The company we meet at table are very genteel, many of them are on the Imperial Guard, or belong to the *Corps Diplomatique*. It is the only good hotel in the town (indeed there is only one other), and when the port is open during summer, even this hotel is said to be so frequented by masters of merchantmen, and persons of a similar description as to render it unfit for the comfortable accommodation of travellers. The silver ruble (which is never seen) is worth three shillings and fourpence, but such is the depreciation of the paper-currency, that at the present rate of exchange it is only worth ninepence halfpenny. Specie is out of the question, except twenty copeck pieces, but the notes are

clean and well distinguished; those of five rubles (the lowest) are blue, the tens red, the twenty-fives white, and of one shape, the fifties of another, and, lastly, the hundreds different from either of the former.

Having now brought you acquainted with the things which at first struck us as most novel, I shall lay down my pen, in order to give you, as well as myself, a seasonable respite.—Adieu.

LETTER XI.

Russian Winter—Lateness of the Season—Extreme Variableness of the Climate, and destructive Effects of its Vicissitudes—Myriads of Crows — Excursion to Cronstadt — Steam-boat — Cannon—Drilling Sailors — Honest Admiral and Court Favour — Russian Ships of War—Oranienbaum — Prince Mentchikof — The Ha! or Solitude of Catharine II. — Montagnes Russes — Peterhof—Mon Plaisir — English Garden — Cottage Orné—Monastery of St. Sergious — Russian Country Seats — Alexandrofski — Royal Manufactory—Excellent Management of the Juvenile Manufacturers — Active Benevolence of the Dowager Empress — Palace of Tzarskoe-selo — Imperial Omnipotence—Road-marking and Road-making — Lodge of Tchesme — Portrait Painting — Sir Joshua Reynolds — Pavlofsk — The Emperor Paul — Palace of Pella—Schlusselburg—Dungeons—Deposition and Murder of the Emperor Paul—Kolpenny—Russian Artisans, their Power of Imitation — Kammennoi-ostrof — Ylagin — Tauridan Palace — Grand Fête of Prince Potemkin—Fountains of Champagne, and Silver Pumps—Museum of the Academy of Sciences—Mineralogical, Zoological, and Entomological Branches — Amphibious Animals—Relics and Antiquities — Effigy of Peter the Great—Skeletons of the Mameluke and the Dwarf — L'Academie des Beaux Arts—Admiralty—Hydrographical Office—Model Room —Cabinet of Natural History—Ship-building — Oak and Larch —Official Peculation — Senate—Marine Cadet Corps—Russian Naval Establishment—Imperial Library—The Mint—Interior of the Winter Palace, Hermitage, and Arsenal — Interview with the Grand Duke Nicholas—Engineer Establishment—Palace of St. Michael—Assassination of the Emperor Paul—Setting in of the Frost—Preparations of Winter Clothing—A Russian Bath—Mode of Heating Rooms—A Table d'Hôte—French and Russian Theatres — English Club — Commercial Club—Meteorological Observations—Freezing of the Ladoga and Neva.

St. Petersburg, $\frac{1}{13}$ December, 1822.
Thermometer, Reaumur, 10 degrees.

You are aware that we came to this country, at this unusual season for travellers, in order to experience what is often so emphatically termed, a Russian winter, and which many people imagine saved

the empire from the destructive grasp of the insatiable Napoleon, and ultimately caused his downfal and exile. Be that as it may, we certainly arrived, impressed with much respect for this season, not unmixed with some little apprehension that our temerity might be visited by an indelible mark of its prowess, in the shape of a bite on the ear, or the loss of a nose.

However, dangers are generally magnified at a distance; and we had, during our stay, been so frequently disturbed by false alarms of the enemy's approach, that we became quite impatient, and have hailed his unusually late appearance this day with the most sincere pleasure, for it is impossible to imagine any thing more disagreeable than the extreme variableness of the weather ever since our arrival. The mornings and evenings have been extremely cold, the days either much overcast, or slight snow or rain has fallen; the former fell, for the first time, on the 30th October, new style, since which the rapidity with which frost, thaw, snow, rain, and haze, in short, every kind of weather, except clear, has succeeded each other is impossible to be imagined. Nothing less than experience can give an adequate idea of it, or of the effect it has had upon the spirits and activity of the natives. Every plan, as soon as formed, has been rendered abortive by the weather becoming directly opposed to that which had originated it. One day, sledges in use; the next, wheels resumed. Parties disappointed by the removal of the bridges, when,

perhaps, the floating ice from the Ladoga has afterwards disappeared, and they have been replaced. The worst of the evil has been the destruction of provisions; for, strange to say, in the interior, to the southward and eastward, sledge-roads have been long established, and the country-people have started with frozen provisions for this market; but when, perhaps, within a hundred leagues of the city, they have been surprised by a thaw, and the whole have been spoiled: in short the variableness of the season, and not its lateness, has baffled every calculation, and done considerable injury to the community at large. Never since the foundation of the city has so variable, or, with only one exception, so late a winter been registered, and this last happened exactly fifty years ago, or in 1772, when the Neva was not finally passable by the ice till the 24th of December, new style. This mode of communication has only been permitted by the police this morning, so that the post is only one day earlier than in 1772. The difference visible in the activity of the city, and on the countenances of everybody we pass, is quite delightful; and as we are well provided with bear-skin shubes, fur caps, gloves, and boots, we promise ourselves much and safe pleasure in the enjoyments of the novel scenes which a Russian winter cannot fail to present to us. Added to this, the empress, contrary to all court etiquette, has, upon the kind representation of the Grand Duke Nicholas, and the application of our ambassador, desired that we may be introduced to

her and the dowager empress to-morrow at the court levee, and in the evening attend the ball given in honour of the emperor's birth day, without waiting for an introduction to him (as he is at Verona), which, in this country, is an indispensable ceremony. We feel sensibly this honour and indulgence, and hope it will lead to our more intimate knowledge of, and acquaintance with, the Russian nobility; for up to this time they have been extremely distant, and we are told that they are precluded from publicly paying attention to any stranger till he has been introduced at court; but that ceremony once over, we shall be overwhelmed with attention and invitations. *Nous verrons*, and I dare say we shall be able to meet them all, for we do not hear of any gay parties, and from all we can learn, this is, probably, the dullest capital in Europe, and more complaints of poverty are to be heard in Russia than even *chez nous*. In the mean time I will endeavour to give you some idea of what we have seen, and how we have passed our time since we arrived, and during the before-mentioned annoying weather, which we have probably felt less than anybody else, because we have not been sorry for the opportunity which has thus been afforded to us of seeing the environs, and many things, before they are covered by their impenetrable *manteau blanc*, or rather *surtout*. At this moment there is certainly an envelope, which hides every regular feature, presenting an extended and

unvarying white surface. From this I must except the roofs of the winter palace, and highest buildings on the banks of the Neva on an evening, when they are covered with myriads of crows. The numbers which present themselves are quite incalculable, and the difficulty with which they fix upon a roosting-place is beyond conception to those who have not witnessed it.

The first week or ten days were spent in external contemplation of the various buildings and novel scenes which presented themselves, and in accepting invitations from the ambassador, consul-general, and various persons with whom we became acquainted. At the expiration of this time we determined upon a visit to Cronstadt, while the gulf was yet open; and for that purpose embarked in a steam-boat belonging to Mr. Baird, an Englishman, who has a monopoly of them throughout the empire for seven years. The distance is twenty-two versts, and is usually performed in two or three hours; but the wind was strong from the westward, accompanied by a good deal of swell, so that at times the steam-boat became nearly unmanageable, and getting into the trough of the sea, laboured so much as almost to endanger our safety. Most of the passengers were sea-sick, and, among others, many naval officers, and long-bearded natives. However, by perseverance we reached Cronstadt at three o'clock, after having been six hours performing the passage. We were delighted to find a most excellent dinner

at our service, which had been prepared at Wild's hotel, in expectation of the arrival of Sir Daniel Bayley, who had been prevented from coming down by unexpected business.

The evening became fair, and we walked to the mole head, which is lined with cannon. Indeed, the whole of the island to the westward is like a porcupine, bristled with guns, and is again surrounded by small fortified islands, and pile-batteries, the latter erected at the time our immortal Nelson destroyed the strong line of defence at Copenhagen, supported the honour of his country, and spread the terror of his name even to the gates of the two northern capitals. In addition to this strong proof of the effects of the prowess of our beloved country, we had the opportunity of witnessing its commercial enterprise and prosperity, for the merchant mole was filled to excess with ships, two-thirds of which were British.

In the morning we paid our respects to the governor and commander-in-chief, Admiral Muller, for in all countries except our own, these offices at naval stations are combined. He received us without ceremony, and kindly ordered his *aide-de-camp*, the son of an Englishman, an admiral in their service, to conduct us round the island, and to show us every thing worthy of notice. There is much which comes under this denomination; and it really astonishes us when we reflect, that a century ago this was a barren island without a harbour or pro-

tection, and that now it has three beautiful moles, containing, besides other vessels, twenty-seven sail of the line, and many of them the largest class of three-deckers. These ships lie secure from Sweden, the powerful mistress of the Baltic, when Peter, the founder of the Russian marine, had hardly ventured to look at the gulf, much less to think of opposing the strength of Sweden in her right arm of defence. This is not less strange than true. In proof that the whole has sprung from the inventive and powerful genius of that wonderful monarch, we were shown a model of the island, its moles and defences; also plans of improvement, signed by his hand, proving that, even in its infancy, his comprehensive mind had foreseen what it was capable of arriving at, and had provided every requisite accommodation for the powerful and large marine of the present day. Indeed, the monarchs who have succeeded him, with all their partiality for, and obligations to, the fleet, have not been able to carry all his plans into execution, much yet remaining to be done, and in what has been done, in not one instance have they had occasion to deviate from the designs laid down by him.

The docks are capacious, and are pumped out by a steam-engine sent from England many years ago. The store-houses are good, and conveniently approached by means of canals, capable of containing lighters, and similar vessels.

The hospital we found clean and in most admir-

able order, not to be excelled by our own either at Haslar or Plymouth.

We also visited the barracks of the first *equipage*, which we found in good order, every man having a separate bed; the *tout ensemble* was precisely that of marine barracks (in our acceptation of the word), and we concluded we were visiting the rooms of soldiers, instead of sailors. We were undeceived and informed that they were seamen, indeed the best in their service, having all been round the world; and that by a recent regulation, the whole of the sailors were drilled and equipped the same as the army, in order to render them available for both services.

There are fifteen *equipages* stationed on the island, they consist of one thousand men each, and are so subdivided and officered, as to be able to man a line-of-battle ship, a frigate, and a sloop. They have each "an economy chest," under the control of the commodore who commands the *equipage*. Every seaman who may be employed privately, is obliged to contribute a certain proportion of his earnings; the richest chest contains fifteen thousand rubles.

The cause of the general military equipment is said to be an over zeal of the successor of Admiral F———, as minister of marine. The admiral, at the desire of the emperor, had drilled (and very properly) the sailors of the imperial guard, the same as soldiers, because they do duty in the palace, and are attached only to the yachts. Here the military rage was to stop; but when the admiral retired,

his successor finding how much the emperor was pleased with the transformation of the imperial guard, thought to ingratiate himself by extending the system to the whole service, and, at the expense of the efficiency of the fleet, it is said he has completely succeeded. Indeed, all the excellent regulations of the admiral have been either abandoned, or carried to such extremes, as to render them disadvantageous instead of beneficial to the naval service. The admiral is not only an able sea-officer but also an enlightened statesman. Two anecdotes are related to prove, how incapable he is of concealing his opinions, when the good of the service is concerned. During his ministry, the emperor paid a visit to Cronstadt, accompanied by him: in spite of all his endeavours to keep up the efficiency and respectability of the fleet, it had been much neglected. On visiting the store-houses and dépôts, the emperor wished to pay him a compliment upon their good order, and said, "Admiral, you are always talking to me of the English fleet and arsenals, I should be glad to know if their store-houses can be in better or cleaner order than these?" "No, please your majesty," was the uncourtier like reply, "they are not half so clean; because, instead of being empty like these, they are filled with pitch, tar, hemp, and naval stores of all sorts, which gives them a dirty appearance and disagreeable smell." On another occasion, when the emperor had demolished the rampart round the Admiralty, and established the beautiful boulevard which now orna-

ments it, he said, with evident exultation, to the admiral, "I wonder what Peter the Great would say, if he could rise and see these beautiful alterations in the exterior of his favourite Admiralty." "I know not what he would say to them," replied the admiral, "but I well know what he would think, if he saw the deserted and empty state of the interior?" After these anecdotes, you will cease to wonder at his *voluntary* expatriation. There is little doubt, that the most base jealousy and intrigue prevented his operations with the army of the Danube having the desired effect. They could not bear to see him with a chance of success even against the despoilers of their country; but in strict justice it must be acknowledged, that it was both unwise and unnecessary to intrust the command and operations of an army to a sea-officer, however able in his own profession.

With the Baltic Pilot-school, and that for educating the sons of peasants as warrant and petty officers for the navy, both nearly the last plans of his wise administration, we were much pleased. The former is established in the very house built by Prince Mentchikof, at the formation of the arsenal, and like every thing undertaken by him and his master, is durable and creditable to their name, being still the finest building in the island. The establishment consists of two hundred and fifty boys, who are taught seamanship, mathematics, drawing, surveying, English, French, and German.

The warrant officers' school consists of much

younger children, who are remarkably healthy, and by far the finest looking boys I have met with in the country. They are taught upon the Lancastrian plan; but instead of sand they use chalk and sponge, it having been found that sand produced a species ophthalmia.

We visited the Leipsic, a new three-decker, which had lately returned from a summer's cruise, but without her lower deck guns. They spoke highly of her qualities as a sea-boat, but she appeared to me, as did most of the ships, to be hogged: for, when standing on the after-part of the lower deck, it was impossible to see more than one-third forward. This is occasioned, probably, by their being strained in bringing down on camels from Petersburg, where they continue, in spite of common sense, to build their ships of war. They are of oak, procured from Casan, but of a very bad quality: of course the ships are not durable, nor are those built of larch, at Archangel, more so.

On the third day we quitted Cronstadt, and crossed to Oranienbaum, in a large boat belonging to one of the ships of war, rowed by twelve men, for which we paid five rubles, the distance being about three miles and a half.

The country round Oranienbaum is prettily diversified, having hill, dale, wood, and water. The town is miserable, but the palace is a pleasing object from the sea: we arrived at the foot of it by means of a canal. Built by Prince Mentchikof in the height of his power, it has since undergone almost as many

vicissitudes as that extraordinary man and his family. It is said that he was originally an apprentice to a pastry-cook at Moscow; but Peter, struck by his address, took him into his personal service, elevated him to the highest rank in the empire, and reposed the fullest confidence in him during his life. His influence over Peter's wife and successor is well known, and, by her will, she directed Peter II. to espouse his daughter. This made him so arrogant and disrespectful to the monarch, that, instead of becoming his son-in-law, Peter arrested and imprisoned him at Beresof, a small town upon the river Oby, confining him in a wooden hovel, enclosed with palisadoes, where he ended his days. The palace then became an hospital for sailors, and was afterwards chosen by Peter III. as his favourite residence: at his death it was converted into a school for the marine-cadet-corps; and when the cadets were moved to Vassilly-ostrof, it again became an imperial residence, and was a good deal resorted to by the present emperor when he was grand duke. Although it is still kept up at care and expense, it is seldom visited, which surprises me, as the situation is delightful for a summer retreat. The grounds were saturated with water, and nearly impassable, yet we did not fail to visit the Solitude built by Catharine II., while grand duchess. It stands in the midst of a gloomy forest, and consists of about twelve apartments, which, to judge from present appearance, must have been fitted up and furnished with exquisite taste. The approach to it is circui

tous, and therefore it is not seen till you are close upon it. As the first view generally causes an emotion of surprise, it has received the appellation of Ha!

We then hastened to that which, till within these few years, used to excite so much interest, the coach-hill, or mountain for sledges, but were much disappointed, as it is nothing to be compared to Les Montagnes Russes, at Paris. Thus it is that foreign inventions, carried to other countries, generally surpass their prototypes. Adjoining the palace is a small fort, raised by Peter III. when grand duke, and containing a building called by him the governor's house, which he generally inhabited himself, and into which he admitted only his officers and favourites, while his court resided in the palace!

With much difficulty we procured a *caléche* and a pair of miserable horses, for thirty-five rubles, to carry us to Petersburg, where we were engaged to dine with Mr. Lewis, an American merchant, to whom I had brought a letter of credit. The distance is thirty-five versts, with a wretched road, particularly the first eight versts, yet the animals contrived to make good their six miles an hour. We however baited them for a couple of hours, while we examined Peterhof, which, of course, at this season we saw to great disadvantage; but it is a place of great celebrity, from the *fête* which is annually given at it on the 22nd of July, the name-day of the dowager empress. The magnificence of this *fête*, as related by spectators, we can readily believe, from

the great capabilities we remarked in the grounds and building. It owes its origin to Peter the Great, and has received, under the succeeding monarchs, such a variety of improvements or alterations that it has become a sort of specimen of the several tastes that have prevailed in each reign. It stands on an eminence, at about two-thirds of a mile from the Gulf of Finland, and commands an extensive view over it, as well as Petersburg, Cronstadt, and the coast of Carelia.

The gardens possess peculiar beauties, being disposed into walks, plantations, and flower-beds, with a variety of elegant fountains, and *jets d'eau*, which are plentifully supplied with water; and there are two very fine bold cascades. A canal lined with stone, and of considerable width, forms a water communication between the palace and the Gulf of Finland.

In a solitary wood stands the neat summer-house called, "Mon Plaisir," because the Empress Elizabeth used sometimes to retire to it from the cares of government, and innocently amuse herself by cooking her own dinner! And curiosity is excited by the small house used by Peter the Great for a nobler purpose, *i. e.*, to contemplate in retirement his rising arsenal and infant fleet. It is still furnished as he left it, even to his bed, nightcap, *&c.* Near it is a bath of admirable and unique construction.

In what is styled the English garden is a cottage, the outside of which bespeaks poverty, while the interior is fitted up in the most magnificent manner;

and the astonishment produced by this unexpected contrast, is much augmented by the apparent magnitude and dimensions of the rooms, which are doubled by mirrors artfully and most deceitfully disposed.

It is said that on the 22nd of July neither expense nor trouble are spared to render this delightful place enchanting. The gardens are brilliantly illuminated, and all the *jets d'eau* are in full play. The whole of the imperial family are assembled, together with the great officers of state, the foreign ministers, nobility, *&c.;* in short, nearly the whole population of Petersburg, when a public masquerade takes place, and refreshments are abundantly supplied.

In the neighbourhood is a slobode, or village of wooden houses, together with extensive cavalry barracks.

Hence to Strelna, the road continues for eight versts rich in variegated prospects. This imperial villa has the same origin, and nearly the same situation as Peterhof, but its fate has hitherto been very different; what it was under Peter, it remains to this hour, abating the dilapidations which it has suffered from time. It has never been finished, which is extraordinary, as its situation is highly romantic, and it lies in the neighbourhood of a large well-built town, the first post-station on the Riga road. It now belongs to the Grand Duke Constantine, and is the quarters for his own regiment of cavalry.

We soon after passed the monastery of St. Sergious; the road improved, and even at this gloomy season we came to a scene, continuing to the Riga gate, which, for the idea it presented of taste and art, stands unrivalled in any country we have visited. Conceive ten miles of an uninterrupted series of elegant country-seats and villas, surrounded by lawns, plantations, basins, statues, vases, cannon, *&c.;* in short, every thing calculated to produce the most striking effect. No expense has been spared by the respective owners, to convert this formerly steril ground into, at least by comparison, a perfect paradise. In summer, when all these delightful seats are animated by nature, they are the residence of the principal nobility, who hurry out of Petersburg the moment stern winter disappears. The rent of these houses is said to be most exorbitant, and the foreign ministers are glad to get them at any rate. Sir Charles Bagot had just moved into town before our arrival; indeed, when we passed, the houses were all closed for the winter.

The most remarkable one we saw, having a large basin in front, containing small yachts, protected by a battery of cannon, belongs to the Grand Veneur Nariskin, who is always doing something magnificent and eccentric. It is related of him that knowing the empress was to pass one evening, he had by way of surprise, collected skins of all the ferocious beasts of the forests, and by placing either men or children inside, according to their size, gave them the appearance of life, and they

were frisking about his grounds, to the astonishment of the empress when she passed. By way of further surprise, and honour to his sovereign mistress, he caused an extraordinary display of fireworks and rockets to be let off, when she came in front of the house. Unfortunately, however, not having apprized the supposed animals of the terrible explosion which was to take place, they were most dreadfully alarmed, and, instead of continuing to play their parts as quadrupeds, they attempted to seek safety in flight as bipeds, and by which they rendered the scene truly ridiculous. Many other stories are told of his eccentricity. He possesses one of the largest and most magnificently-furnished houses in Petersburg, yet he lives in one miserable room in a house adjoining.

The winding of the road just before entering the city brought us suddenly up to a triumphal arch, and the effect was very fine. It was erected by the inhabitants of Petersburg, upon the return of the emperor, in 1814: the ornaments are allegorical. It was proposed to be built of stone, but for want of sufficient time, it was run up *pro tempore*, in brick, and stuccoed, which now begins to look shabby; and as their ardour is much cooled, I doubt its ever being finished, according to the original plan.

At dinner, at Mr. Lewis's, amongst other persons, we met Sir R. K. Porter, who had that morning been gazetted, as having received from the emperor a gold snuff-box, ornamented with brilliants, in consequence of his having presented

his majesty with a copy of his travels in Georgia, Persia, &c. I mention this to give you an idea how people are rewarded in this empire, and the manner in which it is announced to the public. Snuff-boxes, rings, &c., have all a certain value: I do not mean intrinsic, but current value, according to the honorary manner in which they are ornamented and set; such as plain, or with brilliants, cipher, or miniature, the last being the acmé of imperial favour, and upon receiving which, the consequence of a Russian is most amazingly elevated in the opinion of his admiring and envying countrymen.

On the 21st of October, O. S., we visited Alexandrofski, where there is an imperial cotton and linen manufactory, under the immediate patronage of the dowager empress. It stands on the left bank of the Neva, at twelve versts from the city. The establishment consists of six hundred and seventeen boys, and two hundred and fifteen girls, all selected from the foundling hospital, and who are employed in manufacturing linen and cotton, comprising every branch of the work, even to constructing the machinery.

We arrived just as they were going to dinner; this was cooked by steam, and the kitchen was beautifully clean. The dinner consisted of beef and soup, with a kind of rice, which grows in Siberia (but much more succulent than that of America), with plenty of bread and grass.

They marched in regular order, the boys separated by a screen from the girls; being arranged

at table, the head attendant rang a bell, when grace was sung in chorus, after which they attacked the dinner with a good will. We were particularly struck with their healthy and clean appearance, although both sexes appeared small for their age. The girls were dressed very neatly, in white; their hair was arranged with elegance and uniformity, each having a large tortoise-shell comb on the top: none were strikingly handsome.

The boys and girls have every thing found for them, and receive two or four rubles a month, according to their diligence, which accumulates till their time of servitude expires, when they are manumitted, The dormitories were well ventilated, and clean to a high degree; each had a separate bed, of which the blankets and bedding were as white as snow.

They have a large play-room, which also serves as a theatre, and behind it is a drawing-school, ornamented with plans and models, executed by them, some in a superior style. In short, it is an establishment which does honour to the empress; the children being, in the first place, in all probability, rescued from starvation or death, and then clothed, educated, taught a good trade, and made useful and respectable members of society. The establishment (as well as others which she protects) is under the general superintendence of General Wilson, a Scotchman, but it is directed immediately by a younger brother of his. A variety of articles are manufactured here, but the staple com-

modity is cotton and flax twist; of the former, a great quantity is sent into the interior, and a good deal of the latter to England: the whole is pressed by a hydraulic machine, as is practised by us. Three beautiful steam-engines are employed of seventy, sixty, and thirty horse power. The gasometer is on a large scale; the whole establishment is lighted by it, but as the gas is purified, nothing disagreeable arises from it: the coal is sent from England. The dowager empress has several monopolies, in order to support her philanthropic establishments (particularly the foundling hospitals), throughout the empire; and amongst others, is an exclusive privilege of making playing cards, the whole of which are coloured here, and are said to produce more money than it is possible to conceive from such a source.

Mr. Wilson wore the order of Valdimir: he was very obliging: we left the manufactory highly delighted, and we are bound in justice to say, that in no country have we seen any thing to approach to it, in point of the comfort and cleanliness, which reign amongst the children. The far-famed establishment of Mr. Owen, at New Lanark, in these respects, ranks much below it.

The next day, at nine o'clock, we departed for Tzarskoe-selo, situate at twenty-five versts on the Moscow road; but here we have a strong instance of what despotic power can attempt. Catharine, when becoming infirm, frequented this palace a

good deal, contrary to the wish of her physicians, who at length, took the liberty of hinting that the distance, twenty-five versts, was too great: "Oh, very well," she replied, "let it be only twenty-two," and the distance was accordingly registered and marked as only twenty-two, and, therefore, they are the longest versts in the empire. The road is very broad, and laid out in three lines, which were knee deep in mud. As this is the road of communication intended to be carried all the way to Moscow, and for the completion of which a heavy tax is laid upon every town, it will be as well to describe the manner in which it is constructed; so different is it to the original log-road, composed of the trunks of trees closely laid across.

The ground being properly levelled and raised, three layers of materials are laid on, the first of gravel, then fragments of broken granite (similar to Macadamising), and lastly bricks. This again is overstrewn with gravel, and to that is superadded a pavement of field stones. In order to make the roads smoother and easier for draught, this pavement has a covering of gravel and pounded stones. It was this last which probably caused the depth of mud I have alluded to.

The country immediately about Petersburg, on this side, was formerly wooded and swampy, but the emperor has taken it into his own hands, and employed an English quaker, named Wheeler, to drain and clear it, in which he is making rapid

progress: in a few years we may expect to find it highly cultivated land, conducing to the support and comfort of the inhabitants, instead of, as heretofore, causing slow fevers and diseases, from its dampness and exhalations.

We soon came to the lodge of Tschesme, built for the convenience of Catharine, when going or returning from Tzarskoe-selo, and thus named to commemorate the victory gained over the Turkish fleet, by her favourite Orlof. It has the form of a triangle, and is built entirely in the Gothic style, with old Gothic ornaments, lofty windows, painted glass, and small turrets. The court-yard is surrounded by the apartments of the officers belonging to the palace, and contains a small Gothic chapel. The country round, as far as belongs to the domain, is mostly laid out in the style of an English garden.

Catharine expressed a wish to have the lodge ornamented with the portraits of all the reigning sovereigns of Europe, and, anxious to gratify her, they sat to their best artists, and presented to her their likenesses. Our late king, his present majesty, and now the late Duke of York, were painted by Sir Joshua Reynolds; but from the total failure of the colours, they are become perfect caricatures; probably from the effect of the weather. This may, indeed, be said of the whole of them, though more strictly of the portraits of our royal family. As the emperor does not, like his grandmother, require to stop here, on his journey to Tzarskoe-selo, the

palace is totally neglected, and will, if not repaired, soon become a ruin.

We afterwards passed through a German village, which, from the number of the houses, is called the colony of two-and-twenty. After this, nothing remarkable presented itself till we reached the chief of all the imperial country-seats, Tzarskoe-selo, the favourite summer residence of the late empress, and not less so of his present majesty. It is situated in an open, pleasant region, diversified with little hills, meads, and woodlands. The space of the whole domain contains four hundred and twenty thousand square fathoms. Catharine I. commenced this princely abode; Elizabeth enlarged and embellished it; but it is indebted for its completion in elegance and taste, to Catharine II. As the present emperor only aims at keeping it up as it was left by her, when, two years ago, his own wing was burnt down, he had it re-built on precisely its former plan. The chapel was also demolished, but is now the richest place of the sort I ever saw, far outshining in magnificence some of the famous rooms in the palaces of Genoa, but, unlike them, it is not gaudy, but chaste to a superior degree. The ground-work is bright blue, and all the rest is of gold; but to produce the bright, azure blue, it was necessary to lay the colours upon a gold ground. I could hardly believe it possible, when such general complaints of poverty reigned throughout the empire, and, indeed, throughout all Europe, that any one

would have been sufficiently hardy to have proposed a plan, involving such a profuse waste of the most precious and necessary metal; but so it is, and where religion is concerned, I firmly believe the Russian to be the most fettered and superstitious of mortals. In proof of this, it may be stated, that in the ornaments unconnected with religion, a reform, consonant to the difference of the times, has taken place: in Catharine's days of prosperity, affluence, and splendour, they were likewise all gilded, but becoming shabby, they have been painted yellow.

The apartments are numerous, and some are on an immense scale, particularly the ball-room; but in all of them, there is a great paucity of furniture and pictures. The two rooms which struck our attention the most, were those designated the chamber of amber, and the chamber of china. The former is so termed, being lined with amber, but from not having any thing to relieve it, the effect is heavy; the amber was presented by the king of Prussia. The latter has a much more pleasing effect, the china being tastefully arranged on a ground-work of black or Japan.

The outside of the palace is extremely striking from its magnitude. It consists of three stories, and has on each side a wing standing back; the one being the chapel, and the other the bathing rooms. The centre is the habitation of the monarch, to the middle story of which there is a fine, arched road,

forming an inclined plane. The origin of this contrivance is said to be, that Catharine having complained to Potemkin of the fatigue she experienced in ascending and descending the grand staircase, he artfully persuaded her to remain two days at Petersburg (a thing she was much averse to in summer), and, on her return, surprised her agreeably by driving up this road to the window of the drawing-room. In short, this able favourite never allowed a wish of his royal mistress to remain a moment ungratified.

Adjoining to the south wing of the palace, runs an arcade fifty fathoms long, over which is a covered colonade of marble pillars. The gardens are laid out in the English style, and the emperor lately wishing to make some alterations, sent for Mr. B., an English gardener, and gave him the necessary directions for laying out the ground, but which being directly contrary to his own opinion and judgment, he very frankly told his imperial majesty, he could not comply with his royal wishes, as they were so contrary to all the rules of art, that the world would never believe the emperor had ordered them; and that, consequently, the blame would always be laid by the public on his head, a weight, which, as he valued his reputation, he was by no means ambitious of bearing. This uncomplying independence caused his dismissal from his employment, and for some time lost him the imperial favour; he has, however, lately regained it, and is at this time

employed in laying out the grounds at the Zelagin palace, which bid fair to do honour to his taste and judgment. Approaching the palace, to the left we have the park-wall, and before us the entrance on the Petersburg side. It consists of two portals, composed of blocks of stone, in the form of rocky fragments, over one of which is a Chinese watch-house. By this passage we entered the fore-grounds of the palace, the court of which forms an amphitheatre of buildings opposite the grand façade, closed on each side by an iron palisade. Along the east side of the garden stands a *slobode* of two rows of well built houses, containing apartments for lodging and entertainment.

Among the curiosities of the grounds, the following particularly attracted our attention. A small temple containing a collection of antique and modern statues, a *solitude* for dinner parties, a magnificent bath, a *Montagne Russe,* a picturesque ruin from which a view of the grounds is obtained, and a small town to commemorate the taking possession of Taurida. Two artificial lakes are connected by a running stream, crossed by an arched bridge, covered at top by a roof resting on two rows of marble columns. Here are placed two sentry-boxes where Alexander and Constantine used to play soldiers!! On one of the islands in these lakes stands a Turkish mosque; on another, a spacious hall for musical entertainments. In a thick shrubbery, we come upon a pyramid in the Egyptian form, in the

vicinity of which are two obelisks, and a very fine bronze statue of a nymph at the well with a broken pitcher, both admirably executed, and placed on a large block of granite, with a stream of water running from the pitcher. Catharine delighted to raise monuments to those who served her with zeal and success; accordingly a marble obelisk reminded us of the victory near Kagul, and of the victor Romantzof Zadunaisky. To the day of Tschesme, and the hero Orlof Tschesmenskoz, a marble column on a pedestal of granite is dedicated.

A grand triumphal arch proclaims the patriotic ardour with which Prince Orlof encountered rebellion and the plague in the ancient capital, and suppressed them both. The victory in the Morea, and the name of Feodor Orlof, are handed down to posterity by a rostral column, while Alexander, following the example of his grandmother, has erected a triumphal arch which bears the following inscription,—

A mes chers compagnons d'armes.

This is intended to perpetuate the gallantry and devotion with which he was supported by his troops, during his last struggle with, and final triumph over, France; but, as it is without date, should it stand for ages, its meaning will no doubt be involved in obscurity. Such is the confidence of the emperor and of the imperial family in the love of the people, that the high road to Moscow runs through these beautiful grounds; the family walk about at all hours

unattended, nor is there any restriction upon the entrance of the public. The emperor is said to be as regular as clock-work in taking his morning rounds, though of late, it has been observed that some of the police precede him, and clear the walks, but they never appear in sight of his person; it is therefore more likely to be an officious caution on their part, than on his. Independent of the palace before described, there is one, which, under other circumstances, would be considered large. It was built for the emperor when grand duke, and called by his name, and was occupied by the Grand Duke Nicholas, during his honeymoon.

From Tzarskoe-selo we proceeded three versts further to Pavlofsk, which, as the name indicates, belonged to the late Emperor Paul, and is now occupied by his widow. It is comparatively on a small scale, and the quick transition from the region of magnificence and grandeur into the sphere of cheerful taste, and apparently artless simplicity, is very striking. The palace stands in a charming wilderness, and may be said to partake more of private, English, elegant, simplicity, than of imperial magnificence.

The ground-floor is occupied by the dowager empress; the rooms are small, but elegantly and comfortably furnished. Much of the furniture is the production of her own hands, and of those of her daughters, and of the female nobility educated at her establishments. I allude principally to the

tapestry, embroidery, and paintings, every thing indicating the elegant accomplishments of the fair contributors. A good painting, by an Italian artist, represents Paul in an amiable point of view, such a one as he has seldom or never received credit for. It is a family piece, in which he is surrounded by his wife and nine children, the latter bearing characters and employments adapted to their respective ages, while the parents appear to be regarding them with a delight that can proceed only from parental affection, a passion so commonly banished from palaces, to seek an asylum in humble life. That Paul before his death was subject to fits of insanity, there cannot be a doubt; yet, in his lucid moments, his natural goodness of heart used to break forth, and many are to be found who delight rather to dwell upon the amiable than upon the outrageous traits of his character. The upper apartments are those of state, and like all such, are large and comfortless; they form a contrast with the lower ones, which is particularly striking.

A short distance from the palace, in a secluded spot, stands the *Temple of the Roses*, dedicated to friendship. The worship of this deity, is, I fear, on the wane, judging from the neglected building and the deserted shrine.

The only bad taste displayed about the naturally beautiful grounds, is a useless and expensive attempt at a representation of some Italian ruin, which has entirely failed.

There is a very good conservatory, and outside of the park stands an extensive range of hot-houses in a nursery garden, under the direction of a German. The plants were particularly healthy, and a number of people were employed in cleaning them, and even brushing the leaves singly with camels' hair pencils. The whole is heated by steam. Grapes were anxiously forcing, in order to supply the dessert at the approaching fête to be given in honour of the emperor's birth-day.

It would appear that all the desirable spots for building, or for other purposes, are seized upon by the imperial family; for at Pavlofsk, as at Tzarskoeselo, the surrounding country is open, flat, and uncultivated, so that the contrast gives an additional, and perhaps undue value to the imperial residences. We dined, three in number, very well for twenty-five rubles, at the post house at Sophia, and returned to our lodgings by nine o'clock, having spent a pleasant and interesting day. It may be as well here to remark, that we met an immense number of *Telegorskas* carrying goods to the capital; they were all drawn by one horse, except the leader, to which, from policy, they attach two, in order to enable it to make good way, as the followers always keep close up. The drivers were many of them fast asleep or drunk, and this is said to be generally the case; they take it by turns to guide the leading Telego.

Snow having fallen on the 30th of October, we

left Petersburg the next day at two o'clock for Schlusselburg, in order to see the Ladoga lake before it should be frozen over. The road lies the whole way by the side of the Neva, which flows with a full stream in a broad and winding channel, having one or two slight falls which render the navigation upwards difficult; its banks, which are steep and somewhat high, are studded with many villages, and several country-houses are prettily dispersed on each side. On the bank opposite to Pella, Potemkin had a country seat, and Catharine, in her great love for him, determined to build a palace at Pella, from which she should be able to see his house. This, at her decease, she had nearly accomplished, in a style to equal the other imperial palaces; but Paul, at his accession, with his usual hatred for whatever his mother had begun, had it demolished, and on its ruins an artillery barrack now stands. The house of Potemkin, as if from sympathy, is also a ruin. At thirty-six versts, when we arrived at the post-house (which was inhabited occasionally by Catharine while she superintended the building of the palace, and which is very showy from the road), we found all the horses were in requisition for the Prince of Wertemburg, chief of the water communication, so that we could not procure any for either love or money, and, therefore, after giving our own three hours' rest, we took them on to Schlusselburg, twenty-four versts further, making in all sixty versts, or forty English miles,

which the animals did very well; but they afterwards met with very undeserved treatment. It was freezing hard when we arrived, yet they were allowed to stand in the open air during the rest of the night, and in the morning were a complete sheet of ice. We, on the contrary, found the house dreadfully warm, but without the slightest accommodation, so that we were obliged to prick for the softest plank, and lie down on our cloaks, but were so dreadfully annoyed by fleas, that it was impossible to sleep. We were not sorry when day-light allowed us to rise, and ascend the church, from the tower of which we had a most interesting and extensive view, combining the town, fortress, canals, with part of the Neva river, and Ladoga lake or sea, with its light-houses. We may mention here, that the navigation of this sea is extremely dangerous, as it has few ports, but many shoals and shifting sands, in consequence of which many vessels are lost every year. In spring it is almost incredible the number of vessels (mostly sloop-rigged) which come down the lake, bringing the produce of the interior, but principally tallow and fire-wood. Like the vessels on the Seine, they never return, but are broken up and sold at Petersburg, for any useful purpose they can be converted to, which explains a circumstance that struck us as odd on entering the suburbs. We remarked that nearly all the planks used in building had been perforated, and bore the appearance of ship timber, which in

fact they literally were, but not procured from wrecks as we imagined.

Several canals, commenced by the genius of Peter, take their rise at Schlusselburg, some running directly to the interior, and one along the south shore of the Ladoga, connects it with the Onega, by which means the dangerous navigation is avoided. They were busily employed in repairing and enlarging the entrance, for which purpose, notwithstanding the frost, many hands were at work, and dressed in their best, on account of the expected visit of the prince, for whom we were at first taken, and we consequently caused no small sensation on our approach. The whole presented a scene of activity and bustle; there were many shops for the sale of provisions, *&c.* The town is small, miserable, and built of wood.

The communication between the river and the lake is a strait about two-thirds of a mile wide. On an island, rather nearer the town than the Finland side, stands the castle of Schlusselburg, so called because Peter considered it the key to his conquests in Finland; but since the boundaries of the empire have been so considerably extended, it is no longer of that consequence it was when situated upon the frontier of Sweden, and it has for many years been used only as a state prison. The walls, which skirt nearly the whole circumference of the island, are built with stone and brick, about fifty feet in height, and from eleven to twenty thick, and are strength-

ened according to the ancient mode of fortification, with battlements and eight round towers: it is entered by a draw-bridge. A range of corridors, open on the inner side, encloses a large area, and contains several dungeons for prisoners, the windows of which are closed with brick, leaving towards their top only a vacant space of a few inches square, so that the unfortunate inhabitants have merely a kind of twilight gloom.

Further on, through a portcullis-gate, is the interior fortress, within which, in an unfinished state, is the house built by the unfortunate Peter III., with such haste and mystery, as to excite the alarm of the late empress his wife, and, indeed, to cause her to take that decided step which terminated in his death, and her own elevation to unbounded rule and despotic sway. Several prisoners of high rank have been confined in this fortress: among the most remarkable are the following:—Maria, sister of Peter the Great; Eudocia, first wife of the same monarch; Count Piper, the celebrated minister of Charles XII., who was taken at the battle of Pultava, and died there after a lingering captivity. Biron, Duke of Courland, once the favourite of Anne, and regent of the empire, occupied one of the loathsome dungeons; and the ill-fated Ivan, after an imprisonment of three and twenty years, suffered an untimely end in another.

It is said, that an order, obtained surreptitiously by Count P——, from Paul, for the confinement of

the Grand Dukes Alexander and Constantine in the castle, had such an effect upon them as to cause them to consent to his deposition, but by no means to his violent death. Since the accession of the present beneficent monarch, no confinement of an aggravated or cruel nature has been known within its walls. On tasting the water of the lake we found it sweet and good; indeed the Neva water is supposed to possess every quality, which it ought to have to render it wholesome. The imperial family, when at Tzarskoe-selo, are supplied with it fresh every day from the river.

After taking coffee, for which, with our sleeping-room (for beds we had none), the rascal had the impudence to demand fifteen rubles (however we only paid him eleven), we started for Kolpenny, to the great delight of our shivering horses, which we were afraid would not be able to move. Kolpenny lies at a distance of thirty-four versts, and is the chief establishment for providing almost every kind of store for the fleet, whether in the Baltic, White, or Black Seas: its situation was most judiciously chosen for that purpose by Peter, and indeed some of his workshops still exist. It stands at four versts from the Neva, with which it communicates by a smaller river, that serves to work all the machinery, whether in summer or winter, as during the former season, a curiously-constructed iron dam concentrates its dimished water so as to give the requisite force; and during the latter, the water is heated and

conveyed into a reservoir above the necessary fires; and its power and direction are regulated by a very beautiful piece of mechanism.

We were very civilly received by Mr. McGuire, the director, brother-in-law to General Wilson, who has the supreme management of nearly all the mechanical establishments in the empire. But this is probably the most extensive, as it comprises every thing in the black and white smith's line (anchors excepted), furnaces for iron and brass, cooperage, joiners' sawing-machine, and one of Brahma's for plaining, which cost fifteen hundred pounds, and is said to be the last executed by him before his death; also one for drawing out lead for scuppers, *&c.*, which has not been very long introduced into our own dock-yards. They must watch us indeed closely, and have the best intelligence, for almost every nautical instrument which is patent, or considered a great improvement in our service, is made, and to be seen at Kolpenny. For instance, during our visit they were preparing a patent rope machine to send down to Kherson; deep-sea leads upon Ross's plan, with fangs for bringing up some of the bottom; sounding thermometers, Kater's compasses, *&c. &c.* They were also making a very large spinning-jenny for Alexandrofski, and had lately finished that beautiful machine for running the teeth into leather for carding wool, which was invented by an American, and which has been so much admired and of so much utility in England, and, indeed, is

said to be the *ne plus ultra* of mechanism for the woollen trade. Yet, to accomplish all this, they have nobody but the crown serfs, who arrive there already grown up, and perfectly ignorant; but such is the comprehension natural to the Russian character, that they soon become expert artists, to whichever line they may be ordered to attend. They are well treated, clothed, and receive seamen's wages, that is, from fifteen to thirty-six rubles a month, according to their ability; and, what is an unusual thing in this country, their wages are regularly paid to them; but then it is said, that all the establishments under General Wilson are better regulated and attended to than any others in the empire, as he has unbounded influence at court, and particularly enjoys the confidence of the dowager empress. His father was one of the artificers who so clandestinely left the Carron Works, about the year 1789, with Gascoigne, and who, if I am rightly informed, were all outlawed. Catharine's great object in seducing them was to establish a cannon-foundery, which they accomplished for her near the Onega lake. These men, and their children, are now at the head of almost all the different mechanical establishments in Russia, and most of them have been much advanced in life by military rank, and Orders of knighthood, so common, but at the same time so valuable, in this country.

The water power, when at its full extent, is said to be equal to one thousand horses, and to afford

employment for two thousand men: at the time of our visit there were only one thousand employed, as there was nothing very pressing to be done. Just as we were leaving it, a messenger arrived to say the Grand Duke Nicholas intended to visit it the next day, an honour not conferred upon it by any of the imperial family during the last four years; indeed, it is said, that nothing connected with the marine is ever fostered by their smiles, the whole rage being, as with most of our own royal family, *en militaire.*

We reached our hotel about eight in the evening, and as this was our first trip undertaken in frost, and by night travelling, you may wish to know how we provided against, and withstood the cold. We were in an open *caléche,* our ciceroni well wrapped up in his furs, but we not having them, had only our great coats, with the addition of a shawl, fur boots over our common ones, and fur gloves, which effectually protected us, and we did not catch cold or suffer the slightest inconvenience from the weather. The roads were in very bad order the whole distance, in consequence of having been wet and much cut up before the frost set in, and we found them full of ruts. We were also much annoyed by the *telegoes,* the drivers of which being generally either drunk or asleep, did not get out of the way; and we frequently owed our safety more to the instinct of their horses in pulling up, or drawing close to the bank to allow us to pass, than to any precaution or trou-

ble they took to avoid coming in contact with us. This was particularly the case near the spot where Peter the Great is said to have pitched his tent the night before attacking Schlusselburg, where the leader, in a dangerous part, drew up with the greatest possible nicety, to ensure our passing, and to prevent the upsetting of his own vehicle into a ditch.

A drive to Kammennoi-ostrof, and Ylagin's Island, finished our rural excursions, having visited every spot deserving of that title, with the exception of Gatchina, formerly a hobby of the late emperor, when grand duke, but now occupied by his widow ; it is twenty versts from Tzarskoe-selo, and therefore beyond a day's drive.

Kammennoi-ostrof is an island on which the emperor has a neat, small palace, where he usually spends a fortnight during the summer, when the imperial yachts are brought up to it, and tend much to enliven the scene. There are also several fine, private gardens, in which all people are allowed the liberty of amusing themselves in a becoming manner. The romantic wildness of this island, its situation, the fishery, and a well-furnished house of entertainment, are said to draw a great number of visiters to it, on fine summer days. An adjoining island, called Krestofsky-ostrof is one continued forest, cut through in various places into large and noble vistas, where people are also allowed to amuse themselves.

But the Ylagin is said to be more frequented

than any of the others; it certainly possesses great natural beauties, which are about to be assisted by the able hand of Mr. B——. A very fine palace has lately been built on it, consisting of two stories, which the emperor presented to his mother at the beginning of this year, and of which she took possession with much ceremony. It is superbly furnished: one chandelier alone cost forty thousand rubles, and every thing else in proportion, the whole amounting to four million rubles. The grounds are said formerly to have belonged to C———, who became security for a gentleman having a brandy distillery, which failing, the crown seized the whole estate. This seizure he resisted, saying, "only let me know how much is the deficiency, and I will make it good by other means, without losing this property:" however, the government persisted, and upon his remonstrating rather warmly, he received a recommendation to travel for the good of his health, which is said to be an uncommon remedy for discontent in this country; at least, so we have been informed.

Whether the erection of the palace will benefit the public is rather doubtful. Immediately behind this superb edifice, on the opposite bank of the river, we were surprised to see a most miserable wooden village. Indeed I must confess, that in these excursions, we have met with scenes of poverty, wretchedness, and filth, which, when walking in the Perspectives, would appear incredible, so

that I fear it is only the emperor's eye that keeps the city in good order, I mean that part of it which he is in the habit of visiting, for all the suburbs are nearly in the same neglected state. I have, therefore, little doubt, if any future sovereign should move the government to Moscow, that the decline of this city would be as rapid as its rise has been extraordinary. The attention of the police to maintain cleanliness in the frequented parts, is as great as their neglect of it in the suburban quarters. I have frequently been awakened in the night by the dvornick (porter) who, at their call, was scraping and cleaning the pavement under my windows, and the streets are all swept before day-light. Every house has its dvornick, whose duty it is to keep the court clear, attend the fires, and fetch water from the river; they are slaves from the interior, who pay an obrok (a certain sum to their masters); they live upon very little, and wear a sheep-skin shube, and a pair of boots which appear over all; the former soon becomes saturated with filth and grease, and is worn till it drops off. This remark also applies to the isvochtscheks, or drivers of the droskies for hire.

The summer-garden is about two hundred fathoms long, and one hundred broad. Its walks are neat, and well shaded by large lime-trees, but the season being past, we have rarely met any person in it.

The Tauridan palace and garden may almost be reckoned in the country, and therefore merit notice

before quitting the rural subject. The extent of this plot of ground, and the simplicity of its plan, entirely in the English taste, form its peculiar excellence. Hills and lakes, shrubberies and waterfalls, render it extremely romantic. There is a fruit garden, with an immense extent of hot-houses; but the most extraordinary thing is the conservatory attached to the palace, exceeding in size any thing I have ever seen or heard of. It is well filled with plants, tastefully arranged. The hall is two hundred and sixteen feet by seventy-eight; the palace has a very imposing appearance from the river. It was here Potemkin gave his extraordinarily magnificent fête to Catharine, on the last occasion that he was to enjoy her smiles. In the conservatory there were fountains filled with champagne and claret, into which were introduced silver pumps, for serving the company with these wines.

The palace is now occasionally the residence of the dowager empress. We were surprised at not finding a single portrait of any of the imperial family throughout the different apartments.

Having brought you acquainted with the environs of this city, I will now proceed to do the same with the interior of the public buildings, *&c.*, in the same order in which circumstances have enabled us to gain admittance, for almost every thing either requires a ticket, or a particular introduction. Soon after our arrival we procured a ticket to see the Museum of the Academy of Sciences, which dates

its origin from the reign of Peter the Great, but has been fostered with care by each succeeding sovereign; particularly by the last Catharine, and his present majesty.

The edifice is spacious and well lighted, with apartments particularly well adapted for the preservation and display of its varied and invaluable treasure.

As it is impossible for me to particularize the various interesting objects, I must content myself by running over the different collections generally.

You will readily believe that the mineral department is most extensive and rich, but I must bring to your notice several magnets, with beautiful specimens of Malachite and Siberian *lapis lazuli*. A pyramid tastefully arranged, exhibits, at one view, the whole variety of precious stones which is to be found in this extensive empire, and also some interesting petrifactions.

Among the foreign minerals are to be remarked, several masses of pure and malleable silver, and one of native silver, of such fineness, that they show a coin said to have been struck from it in its natural state.

The department containing specimens of the mineral kingdom stands unrivalled: it is the result of the united labour of several scientific missions sent to all parts of the imperial dominions for the purpose of making collections.

But it is in the departments dedicated to the

animal kingdom that this museum rises far superior to all others in variety and extent, containing many specimens nowhere else to be met with, particularly the skeleton of a Mammoth, found buried in eternal snow in Siberia, an animal of which the existence has been doubted. The Thieban buffalo will attract attention, as having hair exactly resembling that of a horse, and of which the Turks are reported to make their standards. An elephant of extraordinary size is to be seen, prepared for war as practised in India. After which, to make a transition from great things to small, the extensive anatomical preparations by Ruzsch will excite much interest. The amphibious animals and fish are extremely well preserved, though they must yield to those noticed at Stockholm; but, on the other hand, the insects are so numerous, and so well arranged, as to more than counterbalance the inferiority of the former.

Another division of the Museum comprehends the works of art, antiquities, models, and instruments, while the walls are decorated with original paintings, by Rembrandt, *&c.*, together with the miniature paintings of the celebrated Merian.

There is also a variety of poniards, and ancient relics from the Siberian sepulchres, which will give rise to much reflection, as the remains of a powerful nation. The relics are of solid gold, and consist chiefly of diadems, military trophies, coats of mail, jewels, utensils, idols, and figures of various animals.

A long gallery surrounding one of the saloons, contains a large quantity of oriental dresses upon well-modelled figures, so that there may be seen, at one view, in perfect costume, Chinese, Persians, Mordecanes, Samozades, Ostiaks, Kirghises, Karilians, Aleutans, Siberian Magicians, forming a collection at once interesting and instructive, as it brings us acquainted with the variety of costumes which prevails among these several nations or tribes, some of them adopted by necessity, and others apparently by the mere dictates of fancy. The Chinese and Persians dress in silks, and gold tissue. The Samozades wrap themselves in the skins of wild beasts. The Tartars adorn their persons with pearls and cloths. The Kamtchadals wear pelisses made of the skins and plumage of water-fowls; their Schamanes, or magicians, are hung round with pieces of iron, strung together with thongs. The shoes of the Chinese ladies are only six inches in length, and the female Kirghises wear boots iron-shod at the heels, and stuck round with large nails. Nothing can be finer than the silks and needle-work of the Chinese; yet it is impossible not to admire the industry of nations that, instead of silk and needles, make use of the sinews of beasts and the bones of fish, and with these implements execute works which in no respect yield to embroidery.—And then the vast diversity of physiognomies, from the extreme contour of a beautiful form, according to our ideas, through all the gradations up to the

pinnacle of hideousness in which the human countenance is found depicted.

In one of the recesses is a Kamtchadale sledge, with complete harness for six dogs, besides many curiosities from remote countries.

Adjoining is a most interesting apartment, the cabinet of Peter the Great, in which is a perfect likeness of him, executed in wax, sitting under an imperial canopy, in precisely the same habit he used to wear, so that it does not require any very great stretch of imagination to fancy oneself in the presence of that great man; and by way of adding to the effect, it is so contrived, that by touching a spring he is made to start upon his legs. Of late years this has very properly been discontinued, as tending rather to disturb than increase the feelings of awe and admiration with which one must be impressed on such an occasion. The several objects with which he is surrounded have a sort of historical consequence; the peruke is made of the tzar's own hair; the clothes, of blue *gros-de-Tours*, are the very same which he had on at the coronation of his spouse, and the embroidery on it was worked by the hand of that princess. The chair is the identical one in which he used to be seated on solemn occasions. In the same room are also his complete uniform of the Preobajinskoi regiment of the guards, his gorget, his scarf, his sword, his hat shot through with a musquet-ball at the battle of Pultava, and various other articles of dress, which,

by their fashion and simplicity, speak the emperor's turn of mind.

In the next room are kept a lathe for turning, and a variety of instruments and mechanical tools which Peter was wont to use in his hours of recreation. Amongst a number of productions of his own work, are various utensils in ivory, and an iron bar forged by him, in order to encourage the trade in that metal.

After the master, must be remarked the skeletons of two of his favourite domestics, the one a mameluke of seven feet high, the other a dwarf; their skins are dried, and as hard as parchment; they stand upright at the lower end of the room, covered with green silk from the waist. The physical apparatus contains, besides the ordinary and indispensable particulars, a Chernhausen burning-lens, the heat of which, in the focus, exceeds the sunbeams in open air thirteen hundred and eighty-four times: and it is reported, that at the experiments made with it in the presence of the Empress Anne, large pieces of pewter and lead were melted in an instant; on being brought into the focus, small silver coins became fluid in the space of a minute. There is also a metallic lens, remarkable for its magnitude and power.

The last compartment of the Museum comprehends the cabinet of coins and medals, which is particularly valuable, and perhaps the most extensive in the world.

L'Academie des Beaux Arts, opposite the English quay, is by far the most classical building of this city. The establishment serves the two-fold purpose of an academy of science and a school.

The number of scholars who are the sons of free parents of the lower class, and who are admitted at the age of six, is two hundred: besides these, the institution takes also boys, in consideration of a yearly payment. The pupils are divided into five classes, and are instructed till their fourteenth year, in all the branches of knowledge necessary for a young artist, at which period they must fix upon one of the departments of practice taught in the academy. These are painting, engraving, sculpture, music, architecture, and the making of a variety of artificial and mechanical works. Examinations and public exhibitions are annually held, and are frequented by a great concourse of people. Such of the youths as show most talent and industry, and have four times obtained the prize, are sent for six years, at the expense of the academy, to travel in various parts of Europe; and when they have finished their studies, they are discharged from all obligation to the institution. The others are obliged to serve the government for twenty-five years after their education is complete.

We remarked a peculiarity in the establishment for the benefit of the branches of art, which are copied from nature. A certain number of persons are appointed to it, at six hundred rubles a year, for

which sum they are obliged to sit or stand in attitudes for two hours every day. The library is extensive, and the hall, where the professors assemble, is ornamented with the portraits of nearly all the presidents since its foundation. A model of the block of granite on which the statue of Peter the Great is placed, as well as of all the implements which were used to transport it, are to be seen in the hall.

Having received permission from the minister of marine, we were conducted over the Admiralty by an officer, who paid us the greatest attention. It was intended by its founder, Peter the Great, as an arsenal, and, indeed, it is still the building-yard, but nearly the whole range of houses is turned into offices. We were first of all introduced into the board-room, which is very spacious, and ornamented with the portraits of all the sovereigns, from its founder, and with some views of the city, and of Cronstadt, and on the table is placed a triangular tablet, with what is called the three fundamental laws of office.

1st. Not to take bribes.

2nd. To be well skilled in the particular branch they undertake.

3rd. The punishment to be awarded to those who do not honour the sovereign.

It appears (and we have since remarked) that a similar tablet is placed in every public office.

The hydrographical office contains a good ma-

rine library, and a valuable selection of charts, with the most recent discoveries and corrections. Two officers were at the moment employed in correcting the position of Nova Zembla, which had been placed many degrees too far to the westward, and in inserting the late discoveries made on Behring's Strait, by Captain Kotzebue. Commodore Kreuzenstern holds a high situation in this office, and is employed in forming a chart, with all the discoveries in the Pacific Ocean, to every one of which a memoir is to be attached, by which he proposes to show, that the islands and dangers are not near so numerous as are generally represented; but that from inaccuracy of observations and sometimes from the total absence of them, or from wilful misrepresentation, the same island has been laid down by different navigators in different positions. These errors have arisen from various causes and motives, all of which he means, by research into original publications, to endeavour to detect, and to place the islands and shoals in their proper or mean proportions, and to expunge those which he has reason to believe duplicates. His reasons are to be clearly and fully explained. As the commodore is clever, and by no means a presuming man, there can be no doubt of the result of his labours proving highly beneficial and instructive; he enjoys the highest confidence of the emperor, and has apartments at Tzarskoe-selo for the quiet prosecution of his research.

The model-room is very large, and contains a more extensive and valuable collection than I have met with in France and England, with Denmark and Sweden united; added to which, considerable progress has been made in forming a cabinet of natural history, which already contains some rare and curious specimens. It is certainly strange, and quite a reflection upon our country, that none of our naval establishments, from the Admiralty downwards, contain one single specimen of natural history; although it must be confessed, from our numerous ships employed in every part of the world, that we possess, were encouragement given to the officers, better opportunities of collecting them than any other nation. I took the liberty of strongly representing the subject to the Lords of the Admiralty in 1821, but I believe, without any effect, as I do not hear of any thing being done on the subject, although they did not appear displeased with my suggestion.

The view from the stately gilded spire is beautiful and commanding. The number of clerks employed in the Admiralty, as well as in every other department of government, is far beyond belief; they are in general clean, respectable looking, young men, wearing the dress, and having the rank of *Sous Officiers*.

I must take this opportunity of stating (notwithstanding what so many travellers have asserted upon the natural filthiness of the people), that the in-

terior of this, and of every other public establishment which we have visited, is as clean as any gentleman's drawing-room in England.

We found only one eighty-gun ship on the stocks, building upon the plan of Sir Robert Seppings, and they are about to cover all their slips. It appears they were covered sixty years ago, but meeting frequently with accidents from lightning, the system was discontinued; but such is the rage for copying every thing adopted by us, that at the expense of experience, they are about to renew the plan.

All the oak timber for the navy comes from Kasan: it runs large, but is of a bad quality, and by no means durable. At Archangel most of the ships are built of larch, which is very perishable; and many ships of both the materials are broken up in eight or ten years, probably without having been a single cruise at sea. M. Le Brune the *constructeur*, a Frenchman, and who was employed a considerable time in the same situation at Constantinople, told me that the oak of Asia Minor, on the southern coast of the Black Sea, is by far the best he had ever met with, being even superior to that of England. Le Brune built many of the finest Turkish men-of-war; and in consequence, the Russian government was very anxious to withdraw him from the Turkish service, and made many ineffectual attempts and offers, as he was extremely well paid. But what is there considered a very common and ordinary occurrence, at length

decided him to quit Turkey and accept the offers of Russia. The Captain Pacha having gone to sea, and carried away his fore-yard, was obliged to return to Constantinople for another. This came to the knowledge of the master mast-maker, while in conversation with Le Brune, and the poor fellow became much agitated, which astonished Le Brune, as he could not conceive how any blame could be attached to him for the lubberly conduct of the Pacha. As soon as the fleet anchored, the Captain Pacha landed privately, and soon afterwards coming to Le Brune, they walked down to look at the ships, and in passing one, Le Brune suddenly came upon the unfortunate mast-maker, strangled behind a screen, when he involuntarily displayed some symptoms of horror. The Captain Pacha demanding the reason, and being told, said, "Oh, *you* have nothing to fear." But the assurance had not the effect of allaying his apprehensions, in case any accident happened to the ship, and he took the earliest opportunity of flying to Russia, where he was well received, and soon put at the head of the building department, with the title of excellency, and the rank of major-general. He has the reputation of being very clever.

In consequence of the bar of the Neva, the ships, after being built at the Admiralty, are obliged to be taken down to Cronstadt by means of Camels, or two immense vessels made of fir, except the gunwales, which are of oak, shaped so as to embrace

the ship between them. The Camels are divided into eighteen compartments, which, being filled with water, bring them down so as to allow the ship to be fixed; when the water is pumped out, the whole mass rises, and from probably drawing sixteen or eighteen feet, does not require more than nine. Fortunately, they were to be hauled up for the winter, on the last day of October, which gave us an opportunity of seeing the operation performed. Fifteen hundred men, and seventeen capstans with three-fold purchases, were employed, but could not accomplish it the first day, in consequence of the river being lower than usual. It was extremely imposing to see the immense, unshapely, and unseemly mass of timber yielding slowly and majestically to the irresistible force above described; at the second attempt, the whole was accomplished in about four hours, without the slightest accident, at which all the superior officers appeared much delighted, for had even a leg been broken, it is said that intimation of it would have been sent to the emperor at Verona, and he would not have failed to mark his displeasure at their want of skill. Each Camel is two hundred and fifty feet long and thirty broad in the narrowest part of the curve; the extremes are square, so as to close round the ship supported by them, and the whole forms an oblong, or nearly a square. Several of the builders have been instructed in our yards, and are among the most scientific and able of the department. This remark

holds equally good of the naval officers, who have served or been brought up in our fleets; they are generally actively employed, although the promotion in the naval service, it must be confessed, is, when compared with that of the army, strikingly slow, as officers who were lieutenants in the fleet which co-operated with Lord Duncan in 1798, are now only captains of the second class. Promotion is by seniority and ballot, except in particular instances when the emperor wishes to reward merit, as was the case in his promoting Commodores Gollownin and Kruzenstern. Officers of every description, civil, military, and naval, are most miserably paid, and are from necessity obliged to have recourse to many means for subsistence, which, under any other circumstances, would be considered highly derogatory; but long custom has sanctioned them, and taken off the odium. It is, however, very much to be lamented, that the ill-judged parsimony of government should render such a system indispensable. These observations are equally applicable to every department of the state, which may account for the peculation and smuggling that are said to be so openly carried on with impunity: under such a system, how is it possible that any thing but the most unblushing bribery can exist in every department. In illustration of this, the following anecdote may not be *mal à propos*. An officer of high rank had been suspended from his command, in order to undergo an inquiry on a charge of abetting smug-

glers, for which purpose he was placed under an arrest, and had been so for some time when we arrived. The other day I was expressing my anxiety about his fate, which will not be known till the emperor's return, and the person to whom I addressed myself, said, "If he is innocent, he will be degraded; if guilty, he will be acquitted, restored to his command, and rewarded with an additional honour." I expressed my astonishment at the doctrine, and begged an explanation, which was readily given, nearly as follows:—

"He is a foreigner, and has given offence in some quarter, which has caused the information to be laid and attended to; if he be innocent, he must be poor and cannot afford to bribe, and therefore will be found guilty; but, on the contrary, if he has actually committed the offence, he must have enriched himself, and will not only be able to buy the witnesses off, but also to cause the highest authorities to look upon him as an ill-used man, and to represent to the emperor, that in order to wipe off the stigma so unjustly attached to his character, it will only be an act of justice to restore him to his command, and to mark the imperial sense of his conduct by an honourable reward in a superior decoration;"—he finished, by assuring me it was no exaggerated picture, but an every day, common occurrence. The senators being in the same situation with respect to pay, are also said to be equally accessible. A case has been related to me of a

merchant who carried a cause before the senate, which, after a time, he was told by one of them, had been given in his favour, but that the decision could not be promulgated till the emperor's return from Paris. This information caused the merchant to relax in his attentions and presents, while his adversary redoubled his, and the consequence was, the judgment upon promulgation proved to have been against the merchant, and having once received the imperial sanction, it could not again be agitated. Every case, whether civil or military, is always open to an appeal to the emperor, whose decision is irrevocable, and never allowed to be questioned, even in the slightest degree.

But when, in strict accordance to my promise of detailing to you the actual state of the countries through which I pass, I occasionally relate such anecdotes, they being current amongst the best informed circles, you must be careful not to mistake my intention, or to form a hasty or prejudicial opinion of the nation and community at large, because by nature, unfortunately, we are more prone to receive and record the bad than the good. It would be the height of injustice to suppose, that there are not as honest and as honourable men in the imperial service as are to be found under any other government; or that even the actions of the most corrupt amongst them, are of a more venal description, than those occasionally committed by and discovered of persons in office in countries

more advanced in civilization, and where paucity of salary is not to be found in extenuation of corruption;—poverty will bring strange things to pass. It is indeed melancholy to reflect upon the number of persons in England who are to be seen every day moving in the first circles, when it is notorious that their riches have been procured in the most fraudulent manner, often, I blush to say, at the expense of the widow and orphan. A Russian travelling in our country, would be wrong not to notice such circumstances, and his countrymen would be equally wrong to infer from them, that our society was naturally corrupt. Added to which, there is, perhaps, in strict justice, more allowance to be made for the Russians than for any other people, when it is recollected that, up to the time of Peter the Great (little more than a century ago), the country was almost involved in barbarism, and formed no part of the European community. Since that period, however, it has been making hasty strides towards improvement, and that under the most disadvantageous circumstances, arising chiefly from its secluded situation at the extremity of Europe, presenting no attraction for foreigners, a frequent mixture with whom alone can effectually weaken old customs and prejudices. None come to Russia except invited and paid ten-fold in proportion to natives holding similar offices, which of itself is sufficient to cause a dislike to their presence on the part of the natives. All or nearly all knowledge gained by

Russia has been from foreigners so introduced, or by natives patriotically travelling at their own expense, or sent and paid by government. On their return, allowing half of them to have the ability, what difficulty and prejudice must they encounter before they can effectually introduce rational improvements; while the other half may turn out nothing but visionary and not judicious enthusiasts whose plans are more likely to do harm than good.

Finally it is said, that the inadequate payment of public servants, arises from rather an amiable and mistaken notion. When their salaries were fixed, before luxury was introduced, they were probably quite sufficient to support the possessors, according to the then state of society; since which, from the intercourse of Russia with the rest of Europe, wants have multiplied, while the articles of gratification have always increased in price. Instead of boldly meeting the necessity, by openly augmenting their salaries, a system of peculation has been rather connived at, and upon this principle, that if all salaries had been made adequate to the office held, a most extraordinary increase of direct taxation must have been the consequence, which would probably have caused discontent; whereas the peculation only acted as indirect taxation. Even in England we know how much more generally palatable the customs and excise are, than the assessed taxes, for the simple reason, that the former are indirect, and the latter direct taxes, at least in their modes of levying.

Upon the whole I have no hesitation in saying, that from all I can learn, his present majesty Alexander has done, and is wisely but silently doing, more to meliorate the general condition of his subjects, than has been effected by all his predecessors, since the days of his justly-styled "great ancestor." I have also no hesitation in saying, that I am equally convinced that his subjects, generally speaking, are too impatient, and are by no means impressed with the advantage of the great caution absolutely necessary to be displayed in the endeavour to work a change and reformation in the institutions of so large an empire, and in the condition of a population of fifty-five million of souls, whose interests are so varied and conflicting.

A comparison between the reigns of Catharine II. and Alexander is often made, and always to the disadvantage of the latter: how senseless and unjust! The former, surrounded by unprincipled favourites, feeding upon the very vitals of the country; the latter, perfectly unfettered by a single favourite, steadily (according to the best of his judgment) pursuing the true interest of his empire. And what more can be desired or expected of a monarch whose power is essentially despotic?

By the word senate, you are not to suppose any thing like what is generally meant by the term in other parts of Europe. The Senate is not a deliberative body, except in cases laid before it by the emperor, and then the senators are merely to ad-

vise. The members are named by the emperor, paid by him, and are removable at pleasure, and, therefore, cannot have any of the spirit or privileges of an independent, representative body. As one part of the duty of the Senate is, to receive and then promulgate imperial Ukazes, it is very generally, but erroneously supposed by foreigners, that these Ukazes have been drawn up at the instigation of, and by the advice of the Senate: nothing can be further from the positive fact. Indeed, in so little estimation is the office held, that should an officer, however distinguished, be appointed a senator, it is considered equivalent to superannuation, and that he is no more to be heard of. As, however, they hold a high comparative rank, when a man is either worn out or has made himself obnoxious, but from particular circumstances it is not convenient to throw him by, or to disgrace him, it is not unusual to find him gazetted as a senator, when the common expression is, "Oh, well, he is laid by for ever:" and the prediction generally proves correct.

The supreme court of the Senate is held at Petersburg, but there are, I believe, branches established in Moscow, Riga, and two other of the principal governments of the empire. In no case is the Senate ever consulted upon foreign policy; whatever functions it does possess are perfectly domestic.

I must now draw your attention to the marine

cadet corps, into which seven hundred and fifty pupils, from the age of nine to thirteen, are admitted. They are divided into five companies, under the care of proper officers, who are obliged to attend rigidly to their conduct and morals, while able professors instruct them in the necessary professional branches of education, and even in those of the superior and more liberal classes. Nor are their religious principles neglected; there are clergymen on the establishment, who give lectures on religion to all the classes in regular succession. Strict military discipline is supported, but all the boys appear healthy and happy, being treated with kindness, and allowed every reasonable recreation. Balls and plays are frequently got up, when their relations are permitted to attend as spectators.

After they have made sufficient progress in their studies, and have served three campaigns or cruises in the Baltic, they are appointed midshipmen, and sent either to Cronstadt, or to the Black Sea.

The dormitories are in excellent order, each cadet having his separate bed, and each company a dressing-room and armory; the latter are neatly arranged, for, like the *equipages*, they are all armed and drilled as soldiers. The officers of the establishment deserve particular credit for its respectability, because it is quite neglected by the imperial family; that is to say, none of them belong to, or patronise the navy; while at the head of every branch of the military service, one of the grand dukes is to be

found, and the emperor warmly supporting them all. But since the death of Paul, who was high admiral, and really did support the navy, it has been quite neglected, and may be said to have almost fallen into contempt, and to be considered as a very heavy and useless expense to the country, as they feel that they can hardly expect to make sailors during the few months that the Baltic is open, and when there is scarcely any night. Of this Catharine was convinced, by the following spirited reply of the late Admiral Greig, when she went on board of his ship, upon the return of the fleet from a two months cruise. The empress said, "Admiral, I suppose you have now capital seamen, and that my fleet is equal to an English one of the same force?" "Madam," replied the admiral, "do not deceive yourself; before we can make or expect seamen, they must go to sea, and that in the night." "How," said the empress, "have you not been at sea for two months, night and day?" "It is true, madam," the admiral replied, "I have been out of port with the fleet for that time, but cannot call it being at sea. We were hardly ever able to be out of sight of land; there were no tides to contend with, and daylight hardly ever left us; under such circumstances much has been done, and your majesty may depend upon the superiority of your fleet over those of the Baltic powers, such as Sweden and Denmark, but before we can expect to cope with England, we must, like the English, go to sea

in the night, that is, navigate at all times, and at all seasons, surrounded by shoals, and driven by rapid and uncertain tides, when the nights last seventeen hours, and the days only seven. Nothing but such practice, madam, can form perfect seamen, such as those of England and Holland." As the fleets of Sweden and Denmark are much diminished, an opinion appears to prevail, that keeping up a fleet in the Baltic of twenty seven sail of the line, and as many frigates and sloops, is a heavy and useless expence. However, in my opinion, they must not treat the Swedes too lightly at sea, for, with the assistance of their Norwegian seamen, they may teach them a lesson, though, at present, the two deckers of Sweden are unable to stand against the large three deckers of Russia, if the latter are properly handled. It is said to be in agitation, to propose the dissolution of all the fleets of the Baltic, keeping nothing for attack or defence but the galleys and gun boats of the respective powers; and the proposal is founded upon this principle, that if a war took place between any of the powers, England will be sure to join one side or the other, and render armaments resistance out of the question. However, the calculating merchants fear that pride will prevent this sage plan being carried into effect. When the King of Prussia visited the emperor, a beautiful ship was ordered to be built, and launched in an extraordinarily short space of time, in order to gratify the visiter with the sight; and as

in this country, imperial commands are never to be considered impossible, the thing was accomplished, but whether the ship ever went to sea, I have not heard.

We were much gratified by a visit to the imperial library, situated in the grand Perspective. It was founded by Catharine, and opened by Alexander for the use of the public, who are admitted by tickets. The books are neither numerous, nor very valuable, being chiefly on theology. Many of them are the plunder of Warsaw; and it is said, that some of them having proved too large for the shelves at Petersburg, were cut in two, and, until very lately, were exhibited in that state; but this having caused much irony, the exhibition has been discontinued. We certainly did not see any so divided, and I only retail the anecdote as we heard it, from, what we considered, undoubted authority.

Our great gratification proceeded from the examination of the rich stores of manuscripts and autographs: the former are unique and of every country, particularly Chinese, Mongul, Tungusian, Sclavonic, Persian, and Indian. There are some beautiful copies of the Koran, written extremely small. One contained in a small gold case, has an inscription, purporting that it is the gift of the Right Honourable Lord Camelford. A Chinese work on Ornithology particularly attracted our attention; the birds were beautifully executed, and absolutely appeared starting off the paper, which is the more

extraordinary, as the Chinese are acknowledged to be ignorant of perspective. The autographs were the collection of Dubrowsky, during the French revolution, when every thing appertaining or relating to royalty was held in utter contempt, and destroyed or sold for the vilest purposes. Accident threw some of these in his way, and he formed the resolution of attempting their preservation, which was not effected without much personal risk. They are contained in forty volumes, and were sold to Catharine for fifteen thousand rubles, and a pension of three thousand for his life, besides a situation in the library. The more they were examined the more valuable they proved; and Catharine, with her usual generosity, gave him an additional fifteen thousand rubles, with the reversion of his pension to his family.

There are many letters by Elizabeth, and Mary Queen of Scots, together with a missal of Mary's, beautifully executed, and containing various interlineations by her, indicative of her unhappy situation during the latter part of her life, but all implying a firm reliance upon God, the Redeemer, and the Saints. Nearly all the royal arms are defaced, but in one page is written, " Ce livre appartint à moi Marie R."

Her letters are addressed to her particular friends, and are in a plaintive style, and expressive of the chagrin she felt at her unhappy lot. In one she says, "I am only able to write during dinner-time,

because, by day, I am closely watched, and, by night, the daughters of the keepers sleep with me."

The letters of Elizabeth, during her younger days, are written in a beautiful Italian hand; but as she grows old they become vile scrawls, though energetically expressed. In one, writing of Mary, she says, "Passion has converted her head into talons, and her talons into her head." There are many letters from Henry VII., Charles II., and James. The French collection is very extensive, and contains a copy-book of Louis XIV., with this lesson, inculcating the following dangerous principle :—

"L'hommage est due aux rois, ils font tous ce qu'il leur plaissent.
Louis, Louis, Louis, Louis, Louis,"

evidently written when he was very young. With such precepts of flattery in his tender infancy, one ceases to be astonished at his maturer character.

This library is seldom visited by strangers, but will amply repay the trouble of exploring it. The librarian, who was decorated with a rich diamond collar, was particularly kind and attentive in pointing out the passages and letters most likely to interest us.

Our next visit was to the fortress, in which stands the church, whose spire is the highest object of the city, and, being gilt, has an imposing effect: it can be seen in every direction. The church is large, and contains an amazing number of Turkish, French, and Polish trophies, as well as the ashes of all the sovereigns since the foundation of the

city, including those of Peter the Great. The tombs are of plain marble, with an inscription merely stating the name of the person, and the time of his birth and death. They are in two rows, and covered with a plain green cloth, under which is one embroidered with silver.

The Mint, established in the fortress, is worked by three steam-engines, two of which were sent out by Bolton and Watt, about twenty years ago: the third has been made and put up by a Mr. Clark, the son of one of the persons who quitted the Carron Works with Gascoigne. The whole are under the direction of Mr. Duncan, who was sent out with the two engines from Soho: the process is nearly the same as with us. It also contains an establishment for making aquafortis and verdigrise, the copper for which costs government twenty-five rubles the poud, and the verdigrise sells for eighty. A good deal of gold and silver, mixed in bars, is received from the mines; the two metals are separated by a chemical process. If I recollect right, the workmen at the mint in London are left to their honour and honesty; this is not the case here, for they are searched three times in the strictest manner, before they are allowed to pass the outer gate.

A considerable sensation is just now excited by the extraordinarily large return which the washing of the gold sand of the Ural Mountains has lately made. Indeed, to such an extent is this return, that

many of the great iron proprietors have almost abandoned the certain, but slow profit yielded by that useful metal, in order more quickly to enrich themselves, by at once obtaining gold. The gold-dust is found in granite quartz and slate, dissolved by the operation of the changes of the atmosphere, which so rapidly succeed each other in those mountains, stretching far to the southward, some parts being six thousand feet above the level of the sea. Several rivers facilitate the transmission of their riches to the great fair which is annually held at Richnez Novgorod, and they also facilitate the working of the requisite machinery. Nor is wood for smelting deficient in the higher parts, while the valleys afford pasturage for their numerous flocks. These mountains are said to produce annually the astonishing quantity of seven millions of pouds of cast-metal, and of malleable iron, besides a considerable quantity of copper, sulphur, and vitriol. Yet these certain advantages are about to be sacrificed to the uncertain chance of obtaining gold, because several pieces of extraordinarily large size have lately been procured, some, it is said, even weighing a pound, though we were shown none weighing beyond a quarter of an ounce; and the whole amount received at the mint during the year has been only twenty pouds, or eight hundred pounds.

Government, fearing that this thirst of gold may prove injurious to procuring the more humble metals, which always prove certain, though often slow

387

sources of wealth to a nation, has very properly ordered a commission of experienced mineralogists to proceed to the Urals, and to make a faithful report of the state of the sand and the probability of a permanent produce. They have also power to prevent rash and injurious speculations after riches, which, even if realized, may have the most injurious effect upon the morals and future happiness of the proprietors and adventurers.

The medal department is well conducted, and some medals are beautifully struck. They showed us a series of three hundred, for which they demanded seven hundred rubles, and would not sell any separately.

Near the mint, in a house, is carefully preserved a boat built by Peter the Great; it is in form precisely that of a Dutch galliot: and not far from the fortress is the house which Peter inhabited, when superintending the building of the city. It is a small, wooden building, containing three rooms, in the inmost of which is a picture of the Virgin, with a lamp burning before it; and the outer one contains a boat said to be the first which he built. The house has an exterior shed over it, and a grass-plat round it.

I have already described the exterior of the Winter Palace; and the interior differs little in its arrangements from that of any other palace. It is, however, remarkable for its size, and the accommodation it affords to an emperor, two empresses, a grand

duke, and their necessary suites and attendants, amounting in the whole to nearly four thousand persons, of whom it is said, that upwards of three thousand sleep under the roof every night. We had an introduction to an English lady, in order to gain permission to see the private apartments. With the greatest difficulty, after several times losing ourselves in the various and numerous passages, galleries, *&c.*, we at length found her lodged, *au troisième*, in elegantly-furnished rooms, and enjoying a magnificent prospect—by her kindness we were provided with a ciceroni.

We were much pleased with the apartments of the dowager empress, as they are chiefly ornamented with drawings, *&c.*, by the hands of her accomplished children. In consequence of the empress being in town, we could not see her apartments; and those of the emperor are not shown to the public. One large room is called the diamond-room, and contains a magnificent collection of the jewels which are occasionally worn by the imperial family, and also the crowns of the emperor, his wife, and his mother. Under any other circumstances, the two latter would astonish a spectator by their richness, but being placed on each side of the former, they fell into insignificance. The emperor's crown is covered with diamonds, tastefully arranged, chiefly as oak leaves; many of them are of an extraordinary size: but the effect is a good deal impaired by two injudicious rows of pearls.

Near the crowns are the globe and sceptre, the latter boasting of the largest diamond in the empire, its weight being one hundred and ninety-four carats. It was bought from Safoaz, an Armenian merchant, for four hundred and fifty thousand silver rubles, and a pension for life of one hundred thousand livres. How he became possessed of the treasure has never been ascertained.

The chapel is large and neat, not possessing half the richness of the one described at Tzarskoe-selo. A very fine suite of rooms, which were furnished for the King of Prussia during his visit, have since remained unoccupied.

Of the state apartments, St. George's, and the White Hall, are the most deserving of notice: and, I believe, for size and proportion, are unequalled by any in Europe, being one hundred and forty feet in length, and fifty-two in breadth. The former has eighteen fluted Corinthian columns of fine marble, with gilded capitals, extending the length of the hall. At one end is the throne of crimson velvet and gold, the back and canopy ornamented with the imperial arms, and with those of the different Russian governments, as a cock for that of Astracan, two foxes for Siberia, a crown and snake for Moscow, *&c.*

Paul sometimes dined on his throne, when all the great officers of state were obliged to attend and perform their respective offices. His present majesty, on the contrary, dislikes all state, and the officers have perfect sinecures. There are an amaz-

ing number of chandeliers, candelabres, &c. &c., and it is said that three thousand candles are required to light it up. The White Hall is precisely of the same size and architecture as the other; but, as its name indicates, it is painted entirely white; it does not contain a throne, and it is chiefly used for balls and masquerades: they have each a gallery where spectators are admitted.

In a small adjoining room, the colours of the regiments mounting guard in the palace are deposited; and in it the emperor transacts all military business with the different commanding officers. With the palace just described, Catharine was not content; and she caused another to be built or rather added to it, which received the name of the Hermitage (a name certainly not appropriate to either its situation, appearance, or purpose,) because one of the rooms was furnished with dumb waiters and tables, which ascended and descended by means of springs, so that servants were altogether excluded, and the company became perfectly unreserved. This palace became her favourite residence, and she commanded all the most curious and costly ornaments of the different palaces to be placed in it. After which she frequently threw aside the sovereign, and delivered herself up to the enjoyment and pleasures of private life. She even drew up with her own hand regulations for the government of those whom she honoured by invitations; and that ignorance might not be pleaded, they were fixed in the galleries leading to the different

apartments (a copy is still preserved, framed and hung under a curtain in one of the rooms). As they are curious and will denote the character of this extraordinary woman, when descending from her public hauteur, I shall not apologize for sending you a copy of them.

Asseyez-vous, si vous voulez,
et cela
Où il vous plaira,
Sans qu'on vous le répète cent fois.

REGLEMENS
Auxquels doivent se soumettre ceux qui entreront ceáns.

1.

Ils laisseront leurs dignités à la porte ainsi que leurs chapeaux et leurs épées.

2.

Ils se dépouilleront également de toute prétention à l'etiquette, de tout orgueil, s'ils se trouvoient toutefois qu'ils en eussent; et en un mot, de tout ce qui pourroit ressembler à de la fierté.

3.

Ils seront gais sans petulance; ils auront soin de ne rien briser, de ne rien endommager, et ils s'abstiendront de mordre quoi que ce puisse être.

4.

Ils seront assis ou debout selon leur bon plaisir; ils marcheront quand la fantaisie leur en prendra, sans faire attention à personne.

5.

Ils ne parleront ni trop ni trop haut, pour que les autres n'en aient point les oreilles incommodées.

6.

Ils discuteront sans chaleur et sans emportement.

7.

Ils ne soupireront ni ne bâilleront, de peur de communiquer leur ennui à la compagnie.

8.

Si quelqu'un imagine quelque amusement innocent, les autres s'y prêteront de bonne grâce.

9.

A table on mangera comme et ce qu'on voudra; mais l'on boira avec mesure, afin que chacun puisse retrouver ses jambes pour retourner chez soi.

10.

Toute contestation sera oubliée en sortant, et ce qui sera entré par une oreille devra sortir par l'autre.

Si quelqu'un est convaincu par la déposition de deux témoins d'avoir enfreint les règlemens ci-dessus énoncés; le coupable pour chaque délit sera condamné à boire un verre d'eau froide, sans en excepter les dames, et à lire une page de la Télémaquide.

Celui qui enfreindra trois articles du règlement dans la même soirée, sera tenu de réciter six strophes de la Télémaquide.

Sit down if you like
and that
Where you please,
Without being desired a hundred times.

RULES

To which those who enter here must submit.

1.

They will leave their dignity at the door, as also their hats and their swords.

2.

They will equally abandon all pretensions to etiquette as well as pride, if they sometimes find themselves troubled with it. In a word, every thing which bears the slightest resemblance to presumption.

3.

They will be gay without being boisterous, and will take care not to break or damage any thing, nor to bite any thing let it be what it may.

4.

They will sit or stand according to their pleasure, or walk about if they take it into their heads, without regard to other people.

5.

They will neither speak too much nor too loud, in order that other peoples' ears may not be annoyed.

6.

They will argue without warmth or passion.

7.

They will neither sigh nor yawn for fear of communicating their ennui to the company.

8.

If any one proposes an innocent amusement, the others will join in it with good will.

9.

At table every one will eat whatever he pleases and as much as he pleases, but he will drink moderately so that he may be able to walk home.

10.

In going out all disputes will be forgotten, and that which has entered by one ear will pass out at the other.

If any one is convicted, by the testimony of two witnesses, of having infringed any of the above regulations, the culprit shall be condemned, for each breach, to drink a glass of cold water, without even excepting the ladies, and to read a page of Telemachus.

He who shall infringe three of the regulations during the same evening, shall be obliged to recite six stanzas of Telemachus.

After reading the above, I think we are well qualified to enter the Hermitage, and admire its treasures, although since the death of the (at least in private life) amiable foundress, the regulations have become obsolete, court etiquette having usurped their place.

The Hermitage is composed of three buildings, the principal fronts being towards the Neva; they communicate with each other by galleries built upon arches, which form three streets all leading to the Millione.

The first three rooms contain paintings of different artists, and are called *Tableaux de genre.* In the middle room is a vase of violet jasper, which is near five feet high. The next three rooms are termed the Italian School, and contain the Prodigal, a *chef d'œuvre* of Salvator Rosa, and Cyclops forging thunder for Jove in Mount Ætna; another by Luc Jordano. The Holy Family of course abounds, many of them very good. Two candelabras near seven feet high, of violet jasper, and said to have cost twenty-five thousand ducats, are in these rooms, and claim attention. After which comes a room dedicated to Wouvermans, and where soldiers and admirals shine in the splendour of his masterly hand.

It also contains the magnificent and curious Pendule de Strasser, which was sold by lottery, and gained by a poor woman, named Herold, near Libau, under the following singular circumstances:—

She gave lodgings and refreshment to a benighted officer, and he in return, not having money, insisted upon her accepting a ticket for the lottery, which he had had some time in his possession, and which, when drawn, proved the fortunate number. The old woman, either altogether ignorant of the thing,

or not hearing of its fate, neglected to claim the prize, even after it had been repeatedly advertised in the Gazette. At length an inspector saw some of her children playing with a piece of paper, and discovered it to be the long-sought-for number, that gave the old lady possession of the Pendule, which she sold to the empress for twenty thousand silver rubles, and a pension of one thousand for life. Strange to say, the benighted traveller could never be heard of, although the good woman made every effort to discover him, for the purpose of sharing her good fortune with him. The exterior of the Pendule represents an antique temple of Grecian architecture, enclosing two orchestres, which, accompanying each other, execute some fine pieces of the Creation, by Mozart and Haydn. The sweetness and harmony of the sounds, particularly in the adagio, would lead one to believe that the most able musicians were assembled to produce this truly divine performance.

The next *salle* is dedicated to Teniers, and contains some of his largest and best pictures, particularly a Dutch Kitchen, known under the name of the "Cuisine de Rembrant."

The galleries of Berghem and Rembrant follow, containing also the musical bureau of Hams, for which the emperor paid twenty thousand rubles.

The oval room contains a very fine, full-sized portrait of Catharine, by Lampi, said to be an extremely good likeness. Catharine has been described

as striking by the majesty of her deportment ; her countenance bespeaking at the same time, penetration, justice, courage, humanity, and magnanimity, while her high forehead announced a retentive memory, an ardent and fertile imagination, together with extraordinary intelligence. In this room are also placed the busts of Chérémetof, Romantzof, Souvarof, of Admiral Tcchitchagof, of Potemkin, and of Orloff Tschesminsky ; the whole being finely executed pieces of sculpture.

Above is a library of Russian books, which Catharine formed for the use of the domestics, to keep, as she said, the devil out of their heads. It also contains a large collection of prints which are kept under lock and key ; as are the pastes made in England after the most precious, antique, and modern stones.

In the next room is an extensive collection of medals and coins.

A large gallery contains the French School, but unfortunately the light is bad. The Paralytique of Greuse merits attention. The next is the Dutch School of Paul Potter, of Gerard Dow, of Moucheron, of Vandemeer, *&c. &c.* And then follow the model of the house Peter the Great inhabited at Sardam, and the figure of his housekeeper.

From this part is the entrance to the Winter Garden, which occupies a considerable quadrangular space, planted with laurels and orange-trees, which preserve their leaves and fragrance in the

midst of the most rigorous winters, while linnets and Canary birds fly about as if at perfect liberty. The Summer Garden is attached to it, and is three hundred and fifty feet long, by seventy-seven wide. Large birch, maple, and other trees, form four thickly-shaded alleys, in the middle of which are the most beautiful flowers. From the size and age of these trees, it is difficult to believe they are growing in artificial soil, forty-two feet above the surrounding country or ground.

A cabinet contains some extraordinarily fine productions in ivory and fish bones, principally from Archangel.

In three galleries are the works of Rubens and Vandyke.

The theatre is small, and like an amphitheatre, the imperial family occupying the bottom with chairs.

After the theatre comes the Gallery of Raphael, before the windows of which is placed a rich cabinet of mineralogy: and the Spanish gallery boasts of Murillo in all his glory.

In the Diamond Cabinet is assembled, by order of the late Empress Catharine, every thing curious which could be found in the different imperial cabinets at Petersburg, and in that at Moscow, called Oroujeinaia Palata. These are all ornaments extremely rich in diamonds, precious stones, and pearls; some of the latter are of an extraordinary size, being more than an inch in diameter. Many of the ornaments are remarkable for their minute-

ness, and for the neatness of the workmanship. It also contains the astonishing mechanical clock, known under the name of the Horloge du Paon : when the chimes commence, the peacock turns towards the spectators, majestically expanding its brilliant tail, the cock crows, and the owl rolls its eyes about; the cage turns round to the sound of small bells, while a young female hops, at each second, upon a mushroom, in which are concealed the works of the clock. It was made in England by the celebrated Cock, and bought in 1780 by Prince Potemkin, who presented it to his imperial mistress.

In the adjoining room is the celebrated picture, by Paul Potter, known under the name of " La Vache qui pisse." This famous *chef d'œuvre* had been ordered by a princess, who at the sight of so indecent a subject, returned it to the artist, at whose death Frederick, Landgrave of Hesse Cassel, purchased it, with twelve other small paintings, from his widow, for the sum of twenty thousand crowns. He was so passionately fond of the arts that he would never part with this small cabinet, although some Englishmen are said to have offered him four times the sum he paid for it ; and he permitted only the celebrated painter Thornes to take one copy of it, which is said to be the only one existing.

Another painting by Paul Potter, in the same room, is not less remarkable for the beauty of its execution, than for the number and variety of the subjects which he has contrived to introduce. On

the sides, in small quadrangular spaces, are represented different chaces, and in the middle, in two rectangular oblongs, the artist has represented a man and his dogs put in judgment, and executed by animals. One does not know whether to admire most the finish of the first, or the gay and spirited harmony of the second. All the offices which he has assigned to the animals agree perfectly with their natural characters. The bears and the wolves, as commissaries of police, have brought the former a shepherd, and the latter some dogs, irreconcileable enemies of wild animals, before the royal tribunal of the lion, who is seated on a hill, holding a sceptre in his paw. The elephant and the tiger, as his ministers, are interrogating the poor shepherd, whilst a fox, performing the office of secretary, writes his responses in a protocol, *&c.*

The second represents the execution of the royal sentence, and the consequent triumph of the animals. The bears roast the shepherd on a spit, and hang the dogs on a tree. The dancing of the apes and monkeys presents a humorous scene, and in the most minute parts it is impossible not to discover the pencil of this great master.

The antiques and the cameos are arranged in cabinets, made in the shape of cones, lined with black velvet and covered with glass. They are all set in gold, and small bronze labels indicate the epoch at which they were procured.

Among the antiques there is a remarkable one

presented by the late Empress Josephine to Alexander. It is cut on a sardonyx, which is of the most extraordinary size. It represents the busts of Ptolemy Philidelphius, King of Egypt, and of his wife Arsinoe, daughter of Lysimachus. It has three beds or layers; the bottom or base is brown, the middle milk white, and the upper of the colour of coffee. The heads are cut in the middle layer, the hair in the upper one, as well as the cuirasse and casque of Ptolemy. The king is in the flower of his age, and his countenance gives an idea of great sense and the most perfect beauty. Ptolemy ascended the throne two hundred and eighty-four years before the Christian era; so that this cameo is amongst the few antique stones which have been handed down to our days. At one time it formed part of the museum of the Duke of Gonzago, at Mantua, from whence it was transferred to the beautiful collection of Christina of Sweden, and afterwards into the hands of the family of Odescali at Rome, but how Josephine became possessed of it is still unknown. There are also cameoes, of every style, of every school, and on every species of stone.

In the same room are three silver vases, found in 1812, upon the banks of the Pruth in Moldavia, in exploring a small hill or tumulus. They are very antique, and represent the combat of the Amazons against the Athenians. There are also some gold ornaments discovered at the same time, as well as valuable and curious utensils, dug out of

the tumulus near Kertch, in the Crimea, with two modern *chefs d'œuvres* of sculpture, the Paris and Satarelle of Canova. I must now close this account of the treasures of this extraordinary palace, into which foreigners as well as natives are admitted without difficulty, and conducted into the different rooms by servants appointed for the purpose, who are remarkably civil, and contented with a small gratification. On our visit to the Hermitage, we were first informed of the great insult which is offered to the master of a house by entering with a great coat on, as it implies that he does not keep his rooms warm enough, a thing upon which they pride themselves; and to every house there is a hall, where you are expected to unrobe on coming in, or to robe on going out.

I was very nearly refused admittance, because I had on a sourtout, nor was it till the servant was convinced that I had no other coat underneath, that I was allowed to proceed with the party: and so far is the principle carried, that at the commercial club, where we have permission to read the papers, I gave great offence, and was ultimately told of it, by the gentleman who entered our names, the porter having been severely reprimanded for allowing me to enter the rooms in the same great coat in which in France and England, I have made morning calls upon ladies of the first rank. But such is the effect of custom, and it points out how necessary it is for travellers to learn, and conform to those of the

different countries they visit, and always to bear in mind the old adage, "when in Rome, do as the people of Rome do."

The Arsenal is a showy and extensive building, containing about seventy thousand stands of arms, besides several batteries of brass field-pieces, all in excellent order: the latter have a peculiar sort of sight. There is also a vast variety of trophies and warlike instruments, taken in the different wars in which Russia has been engaged since the founding of the city. The machinery for the boring, *&c.*, of the brass cannon is under this roof, and under the direction of a drunken, dirty, noseless Englishman, who is said to be extremely clever, and to have improved the machinery, so as to render it superior to that which is in use with us at Woolwich. Clever men are frequently drunkards, or weak in the common conduct of life. Our friend, above mentioned, without a nose, is a proof of the former; and a man who has modelled and cast some of the finest bronze statues in Russia, particularly one of St. Andrew, is an instance of the latter. He is highly esteemed for his ability, and has a large and respectable family: his wife died, and he became infatuated with her servant maid; this gave offence to his children, and they remonstrated with him. He shortly afterwards ordered them all to dress in their best clothes, and accompany him to church, where, to their great dismay, he made the servant their step-mother, by marrying her, and now she rules both him and them with a rod of iron.

When the Grand Duke Nicholas visited Plymouth, I commanded a ship there, and was, with the other captains, introduced to him. Hearing I was at Petersburg, he very kindly sent to say, on the 17th instant, that he would be happy to receive me and my brother at his palace privately, although he could not do it publicly, till we should have been introduced to the emperor. We felt this instance of condescension most forcibly, and it ultimately proved of the greatest advantage to us, as he carried his kindness still further, by representing the circumstance to the empress, and by obtaining her sanction of our formal introduction at court, and of our invitation to all the court fêtes, without waiting for the emperor's return. Sir W. Crighton in notifying the grand duke's gracious intention of seeing us, hinted that it would be right for us to appear in uniform, which advice we followed, and repaired to the Anitchkof palace about noon, when we were received by the duke, with very little ceremony, he being dressed in a green coat and pantaloons, with two silver epaulettes and high boots, all old or nearly threadbare. He is a good-looking, young man, of about six feet one, and very little altered since I saw him in 1817. He addressed me in French, and began by saying, it was some time since he had had the pleasure of seeing me at Plymouth; what ship did I then command? Had I one now in the Gulf? How did I come to St. Petersburg? How long did I intend to remain? Did I mean to visit Moscow? And when

informed that I should proceed to the Crimea, he said it was still in its infancy, and had little worth seeing (alluding probably to the sea-ports); and when I remarked, that the emperor had done much for it, he said, it was true, but still much remained to be done, and asked, if I had seen all the marine establishments, Kolpenny, &c. He said he had visited Kolpenny about a fortnight before, after an interval of three years, and was much pleased to find the improvements made by General Wilson, whom he panegyrized as a very clever man, but added, that it was not for me to come to Petersburg to see my profession in perfection, as the season for the fleet only lasted three or four months, when little could be done, but that England, and particularly Plymouth, was the place. I remarked, that his majesty had done much for science and navigation, in sending vessels to circumnavigate the globe; he said, yes, it was true, and that they had many sailors who had been round the world. All the marines of the imperial guard were volunteers for the voyage.

He spoke with much interest about the Breakwater at Plymouth, and of Lord Mount Edgecombe, and the kind attentions he had received from every person to whom he was introduced. In speaking of Finland and Sweaborg, he said the latter was in a very bad state, nothing having been done to it since it came into their possession; but that he had ordered plans to be made for fortifying it, which were soon to be carried into effect, when the island out-

side would be likewise fortified. With my brother he had a good deal of professional conversation, the duke being at the head of the engineers. He wished he was going through Livonia, *&c.*, in order to see some fortresses they were constructing. He spoke of our establishment for education at Woolwich, and said, he would give an order for our seeing every thing connected with his establishment here, and that he trusted we would apply to him if there was any thing we wished to see. He then took his leave of us with the usual "*au plaisir de vous revoir.*"

He is extremely domesticated, and dotingly fond of his wife, a daughter of the king of Prussia, by whom he has two children: she is represented as very amiable. The son, about three years old, a nice-looking child, is to be seen frequently walking in the grand Perspective, with his companion, the son of a general officer, about a year older; for it is an invariable custom to educate with the royal children, some inferior person's child, who shall be a little older, in order always to keep the ideas and talents of the younger one upon the stretch, by imitating the more matured notions of the companion; and this practice is observed through all classes. Attended by an English governess, he always appears very happy, and quite unconscious of the respect which is paid to him; everybody pulling their hats off as he passes, and the lower classes apparently quite delighted to have an opportunity of doing so, while joy and affection smile on their countenances. The young duke is colonel of

a regiment of hussars, and receives the report of their state once a month, when he plays the commanding officer; but at other times, such is the military mania, he is disciplined as a soldier, stands sentry, is put under an arrest, *&c.* Indeed, it is said to be carried to such an extent by the father, that the dowager empress has been obliged to interpose her authority, for a relaxation of discipline.

The following day we went by appointment to see the engineer establishment, in the palace of St. Michael. The duke's deputy, Count Lewis, and all the chief officers were in attendance, an honour we were not prepared for; and had we been in uniform we afterwards heard it was the intention of the duke to have dropped in, as if by accident, in order to have gone round with us. There are ninety *élèves*, who were at dinner when we arrived: they all appeared healthy, and much attention is paid to their personal comfort; they can be admitted at twelve years of age, and are divided into three classes, and may remain two years in each, so as to become officers at eighteen. If by talents they are able to complete the course of studies in a shorter period, they are immediately admitted to all the privileges of an officer, such as rank, pay, and time for advancement, or to the order of St. George; but they are still allowed to remain at the school, in order to attain the higher branches of military education.

Before receiving a commission, they have a piece of ground pointed out to them, which they are to

fortify according to their own judgment. One young student was completing a plan, which my brother thought judicious and well executed; indeed, he was pleased with the whole arrangement of the establishment, which is quite a hobby of the duke's, and engrosses much of his attention and time, and the troops are not sorry for it, as he is said to be a great martinet, but of course has now less time to attend to field days. The model-room contains an extensive collection, and some very good models of the different systems of fortification, which take to pieces, in order to show the more minute details.

Of all the children that enter the foundling hospital, the duke has the choice for his branch of the military service, and when selected, they are separated from the rest and taken care of. He has lately mounted a corps of pioneers, which he regretted we could not see, as they were at Bender, in order to be ready, as he expressed it, against M.M. Les Turcs.

The palace of St. Michael has been shut up from the time of the murder of Paul, till within these two years, when it was given to the duke for his school, and, consequently, the boys are magnificently lodged, many of the rooms being imperially furnished, and all of them spacious and of good proportion. That which was the scene of the bloody catastrophe, still remains walled up.

Paul becoming extremely suspicious of every

body, even of his own family, ordered this palace to be built, and surrounded by a wet ditch, and flanked by bastions, on which guns should be mounted, so as to form a completely isolated castle; and he urged the completion of it with an extraordinary fatality, even inhabiting it before all the rooms were finished. It is painted outside nearly flesh colour; which is said to be caused by the whim of his favourite mistress Madame Chevalier, who, when Paul importuned her to name the colour it ought to have, is said to have replied pettishly, "Oh, the colour of my glove;" which was accordingly given to it, and it remains to this day a monument of her power, over one of the most unfeeling and senseless monarchs that ever swayed a sceptre. Count P—— appears to have been the great conspirator, and to have acted with unheard-of duplicity. Paul placed the most unbounded confidence in him, and is said to have sent for him the morning before the execution of the plot, and to have accused him of concealing a conspiracy, when he replied, "I know there is one, and am on the look out; but for the perfect detection of it, and the punishment of the traitors, secrecy is still necessary, and your majesty may depend upon my devotion to you." It is on this occasion that he procured the blank order for arrests, which, as before observed, was filled up by him with the names of Alexander and Constantine, and with which he worked upon their fears for their personal safety,

sufficiently to induce them to consent to the emperor being placed under restraint. All the world fully acquits them of participating in or knowing the extent of the conspiracy, which, perhaps, after all was fatal, from the determined resistance of Paul, and became absolutely necessary for the safety of the perpetrators. The emperor's distrust being lulled by the protestations of Count P——, he dismissed him kindly, saying, that he felt confident in his zeal and vigilance. He then sent for the two grand dukes, and made them take an oath of allegiance to him: nor was he without suspicion of his wife; and upon retiring to rest, he bolted her door of communication with his apartment, and also, by mistake, the inner one of a secret passage to his mistress, and to the lower apartments of the palace, which had been constructed by his express order, to facilitate his escape, in case of attack, and which, but for this fatal mistake, would have answered the desired object; for Kutizof, his favourite, against whom people were much enraged, did escape by it. But a fatatility attended him throughout; for, as a last act, he turned off some of the chevalier guard, who, of all the troops, were alone faithful to him. When all was quiet, and the midnight hour had arrived, the conspirators passed the sentries without difficulty, and reached the ante-room, where the emperor's two faithful hussars interposed their persons, in defence of their, to them, kind master, and one

soon fell a victim to his devotion, while the other was wounded, overpowered, and secured. The scuffle awoke Paul, who endeavoured to intimidate by authority; but finding it disregarded, he attempted the secret passage, which, unfortunately, from his blind precaution, was bolted: failing here, he gallantly stood upon his defence, and fought till overpowered, when he begged them to spare his life; but the conspirators, well aware that things had gone too far, rushed upon him, and strangled him. The crafty P——, who, during the consummation of the bloody plot, remained below, immediately flew to Alexander, and hailed him as emperor; though there is little doubt, that if the plan had failed, he would have produced his warrant to arrest him, and would have sacrificed him and his brother, in order to secure his own safety.

The tragedy being over, Alexander was proclaimed, and the peace of the city or empire was not for one moment disturbed. The only momentary obstacle to his accession was on the part of his mother, who, upon seeing Paul after his death, instantly exclaimed, "He has been murdered: I am now ruler, and will punish the perpetrators." For this purpose she ordered Alexander under an arrest, and fancied herself about to succeed to the throne, as the two Catharines had done before her. But instead of being obeyed, she was very quietly informed, that if she did not submit to the new order of things, and consider herself a mere subject, she

would be immediately placed under restraint. She took the hint, and has ever since devoted herself to the education of her family, and to the support of charitable and moral institutions, but always retaining her opinion of the violent fate of her husband, whose memory she reveres. She never appears in full dress without his miniature about her neck, richly set in diamonds; and the faithful surviving hussar is her confidential and constant attendant.

It is said that, in private life, Paul was a kind husband and father, and a good master, but that the extraordinary and unkind treatment which he ever experienced at the hands of his unnatural mother had so irritated him, as latterly to deprive him of his reason, which, after his accession to the throne, failed him altogether. Catharine was extremely desirous of having a numerous family of grand children, in order to fulfil her gigantic and ambitious projects with regard to them, their destination being pretty clearly developed by the names she gave them. To ensure this progeny, she gave Paul upon his marriage a very limited establishment, telling him it should only be increased as his family increased, and that with every child he should receive additional and substantial proofs of her favour. This succeeded with him, and during his mother's life, he is said to have been most constant, and certainly gave her frequent occasion to fulfil her promised enlargement of his establishment.

The 26th of October was his widow's birth-day;

and to give you an idea of her activity, I must inform you how it was spent. In the morning she received the congratulations of her establishment at Gatchina, then drove to Petersburg, fifty-five versts, in order to dine with the Grand Duchess Nicholas (who could not go out on account of her recent accouchement), after which she returned to Gatchina, and honoured the ball of her *élèves* with her presence. This is the only member of the imperial family that keeps up any kind of state. The empress may be seen every day driving modestly in her carriage and four, undistinguished from her subjects; the grand dukes are seen in their droskies, carrying an officer before or by the side of them, it being difficult to distinguish one from the other. It is said to be the same with the emperor when he is here, while his mother never stirs without six horses and outriders, and two finely-dressed hussars behind, a police officer following in a drosky and pair. The horses are seldom out of a gallop, and are generally conveying her to inspect her different establishments. On her birth-day, it froze hard for the first time this season, and caused a little sensation about warm clothing and fire-wood; consequently we made a first preparation to withstand the frost, my brother by providing a blue cloth surtout wadded, and having a fine beaver sable collar, which last cost one hundred and twenty-five rubles. I ordered a *chenil,* or the cloak of the country, not unlike that of Spain, it being worn over the

shoulders, and having arms which are never made use of, and a large cape, and being well wadded with cotton. It fastens round the neck in front by a silver clasp, the colour is pepper and salt, and it is in fact precisely the *chenil* worn by the emperor, the imperial family, and every person holding employments, whether civil or military, under the crown, except that the different services to which they belong are known by a small coloured patch on the collar: I paid two hundred rubles for it. The 19th instant was St. Nicholas's day, which is here generally reckoned the coldest in the year; yet such has been the variableness and mildness of the season, that the thermometer was only at twenty-eight degrees Farenheit. It being the day of the patron saint of the marine, we went to the church dedicated to him, which we found filled to excess, and most oppressively hot and disagreeable. The exhalations from bodies and dirty shubes caused a dense atmosphere like a vapour bath; we were therefore glad to make our escape from the lower order and church, and to ascend to the upper one; for this building has the peculiarity of possessing a lower and an upper church, the latter appropriated to the superior officers on particular occasions. In consequence of this arrangement, both are low and confined: the door of the upper one is ornamented with a portrait of Prince Galitzin in the full dress of an admiral. Everybody connected with the marine attended in the course of the day, to pay

their devotions, with the earnestness and humility of which we were much struck, as being so very different from the conduct of our own rough tars, as different perhaps as their conduct would be in the hour of danger in a gale of wind, or on a lee shore. For my own part, I do not believe our sailors are worse christians or worse men then other people ; but I do think, if ever they are brought to be constantly praying and looking out for the best course to heaven, they will lose that carelessness of self-perservation which so peculiarly fits them for their most uncertain profession, in which they are exposed to so many risks that can only be parried or avoided by instantly rushing to what is so emphatically termed on shore, neck or nothing.

Having seen and heard so much of the Russian baths, we determined to try the effect of one, contrary to the advice of our medical friends and others, many of whom had been born and lived nearly all their lives in Russia without venturing the experiment. We accordingly repaired to that which is esteemed the best in this city, and I will describe the whole thing precisely as it was administered. The baths are private and only contain one person. First, there is a dressing-room at a moderate temperature, with cushions and conveniencies for the toilette. When undressed, a fellow presents himself stark-naked, and conducts you into the bath, a good sized room having a bench like a bedstead, with a slight rise for the head. At the opposite side are fitted up

shelves like flower stands, which terminate with a similar bench or bedstead to be subsequently used. The bath is at a high but not oppressive temperature, and is furnished with several pipes, communicating with water from the freezing to the boiling point.

You first of all sit down on the bench, while he forms a lather and scours your head well, after which, he prepares a bundle of soft shavings with soap and hot water, when he obliges you to lie down at full length, while he curries you over on both sides. After this, you stand up and are rinced with tepid water, when he prepares a bunch of birch leaves, and obliges you to mount by the shelves or steps to the upper bench before described. He now throws water on a hot iron which produces such a vapour or steam, that it is almost impossible to support the heat: he then obliges you to lie down, and with the birch leaves, performs the same operation he had previously done with the shavings, except that while you are roaring out with pain from the heat, and begging to be relieved, yet, afraid to lift your head, because every inch in height from the vapour ascending, causes some increase in the intenseness of the heat, the fellow coldly affects indifference and laughs at your request, or sings a few words of a song. At length he relieves you, when jumping down as hastily as possible from a heat which really struck me as red hot, and I thought must have brought the skin off, the fellow adroitly seizes the moment you are on your legs to pour

buckets of cold water on your head. The first gives a violent and unexpected shock which you instantaneously recover, and the second produces a most delightful glow, a perfect elysian feel, which you would willingly continue; but fearful of checking the perspiration too long, the bath is brought to a higher temperature, and when the pores are again open and perspiration appears, the Russian bath finishes, you return to your dressing-room, wrap warmly up, get into your carriage, drive home, lie down on your bed much relaxed for an hour, after which you feel quite restored and are fit for any thing. Indeed, two hours after, I joined a large party at dinner, with a most excellent appetite. The price of a private bath is two rubles and a half, and I gave one to the attendant. The common ones vary from ten to fifty copecks, they are merely large rooms, constantly filled with vapour. The bathers take their own birch leaves with them, and mutually scour each other, but as they cannot have cold water inside, they either plunge into the river, as we marked at Helsingsfors, or if it is winter, the yard being full of snow, they roll themselves in it, and then return to the bath for a moment to restore perspiration. After this, they dress as usual, and walk home, or remain in the cold, washing their clothes. This must be the effect of habit, as it certainly would be extremely dangerous for a stranger to be so exposed to the action of the air, after being so much relaxed. Fortunately, the

Greek religion requires ablution before attending the church, and, equally fortunately, the attendance is exacted twice a week, so that the lower classes by this means ensure health and cleanliness of body, which otherwise, from the length of time they wear their garments (as I have before noticed), could not be preserved.

Upon the whole, I must say that these baths present a greater want of delicacy than it is possible to imagine in civilized society, and yet, within these few years, they have been much reformed. Originally there was no distinction of sexes, both promiscuously entering the same bath, and rendering mutual assistance. Indeed, in many places the old custom is not abolished, and in all it is not considered indelicate to enter the court appropriated to the females, who continue their cold ablutions apparently unconscious of shame. Added to this, it is said, that for a small gratification to the proprietors or attendants, they make no difficulty in clandestinely admitting visiters into those baths that are supposed to be exclusively appropriated to the use of younger females. In short, it is impossible to conceive any public custom or establishment which produces more immoral conduct between the two sexes. Having, as a traveller, gratified my curiosity, I do not feel any desire to repeat a Russian bath.

Our manner of living is very independent and comfortable. We occupy three rooms, the sitting one having an English grate, so that we enjoy a

blaze, the coals coming over in the ships as ballast. The other rooms, and indeed the whole of the house, are heated by what is termed a peach or oven, which is placed generally in a corner so as to serve three rooms. Early in the morning a certain quantity of wood is put into it, and allowed to burn to a red heat, when it is closed and retains its warmth during the rest of the day, throwing an equal degree of temperature into every part within its influence: flues (as I had been erroneously led to suppose) do not convey the heat round the room or house, but it is generated and shed entirely by these ovens or peaches judiciously disposed. They are under the sole direction of the *dvornick*, who frequently, not being a person possessed of sound judgment, does not exercise sufficient discretion in heating the rooms while the season is variable; he not having any idea of graduated heat. In consequence of this, when we first arrived, my brother was frequently annoyed by head-aches, from the injudicious heating of the peach in his room, and it was only with difficulty he could persuade the *dvornick* to modify it. The expense of fuel, from the enormous quantity used, has become a very serious article in housekeeping, and one is surprised to see the immense stacks of wood piled up in every court-yard; and still more so, when assured that as much more will probably be required before the genial heat of the sun is again felt.

In our house is a most excellent Table d'Hôte,

at which we breakfast, dine, and drink tea, or sup. There are about a dozen gentlemanly mercantile-travellers, who lodge in the house, and whom we meet at table, with the addition, at dinner, of from fifteen to twenty natives, principally officers in the imperial guard, aides-de-camp to the emperor, or noblemen attached to the court, and foreign diplomatists, nearly all of whom we find pleasant and intelligent companions. The Russians drink a great deal of a sweet champagne, made for the Russian market; we not liking it, are content with excellent Port, Madeira, or Sherry. The dinner is abundant and well served, generally consisting of soup, fish, poultry, and roast and boiled beef and mutton, with capital potatoes, and not unfrequently preserved green peas, which are pleasing to the eye, but I cannot say I admire the taste. Another vegetable, never omitted at any Russian table, is salted cucumbers, they are highly esteemed, and considered very wholesome: Sir Charles Bagot sent some to the king, who is so fond of them, that it is said he never dines without them. Buck wheat, dressed plain, and eaten with cream or butter, is frequently introduced, and apparently highly relished: the dinner finishes with pastry and cheese as in England, after which we generally sit for an hour over our wine in conversation; coffee is brought to each person before he quits the table. The evenings are usually spent either at whist, or at the theatre, and we have very little variety, for although we experience great attention and kindness from a few families, it is by

no means general, and probably there never was a capital so little distinguished for hospitality. This seems to be a general complaint, nor do we find or feel that we are at all neglected; on the contrary, we receive more invitations than our neighbours; but notwithstanding this, it is extremely dull, and we are thrown much on our own resources. However, we are told, that after our introduction at court, "il sera tout à fait different, ou une autre chose." There is not any Italian opera, and there are only two theatres, a French and a Russian. The former is clean, light, and neat: the boxes are commonly well filled with ladies who present little beauty or elegance; their faces, are in general plain and broad. The pit is divided into arm-chairs and banks, at five, three, and two rubles each; the former are considered equally respectable with the boxes, which are generally let for the season. The *Corps Dramatique* is tolerably fair, and acts upon its own account; this is an experiment, as formerly this theatre (like all the others in the empire) was under the government, which provided every thing, and paid the performers by the season.

The Russian theatre is very large, and well fitted, but miserably lighted: the prices are the same as at the French house; but as they generally attempt and murder foreign pieces, for instance some of Scott's novels dramatized, such as the Black Dwarf, we find little amusement in it, except when they give native pieces, which is but seldom. It is not so fashionably attended as the French theatre.

We sometimes dine at the English Club, as it is called, not because the principal members are English, for they are not, but because it was originally established by them. It is a very large and good establishment with billiard, card, and news-rooms; dinner can be ordered every day, but on Wednesdays and Saturdays a general one is provided, which, on the latter day, is usually attended by one hundred persons, and is served at five o'clock. It is an old saying, that birds of a feather flock together, and this is particularly exemplified here. Those who are fond of cards or billiards sit together, and rise the moment the cloth is removed; while those who like the social glass herd at one end, and sometimes keep possession till midnight, or even daylight; it being understood that whatever wine is called for, is to be passed in common, although each individually pays for the quantity he orders. This produces good fellowship, and leaves but little difference in the respective amounts at the latter end, for those who may be cautious and close at the early part, generally run into the opposite extreme at the conclusion. This club is not open to strangers, except by invitation, so that we are obliged to request two gentlemen to put our names down in the book kept for that purpose, when we wish to dine there, and we are then at liberty to call for wine and pay our own bills. The gentlemen by whom we are introduced are not even obliged to meet us, which renders us in some degree independent.

There is also a commercial club, from which all the military are strictly excluded. We had an offer of belonging to it, upon passing for merchants, but were too conscientious to submit to the *ruse.* It was there, before we were aware of the restriction, that my great coat gave offence.

As it is indispensable that all visits should be paid, or dinner parties attended in a coach and four, we have hired one at five hundred rubles a month, with a very trifling gratification to the coachman and postilion. This, with our *valet de place,* an Englishman who has been many years in the country, at one hundred and fifty rubles, forms a very considerable item in our expenses : our charge for the board and lodging before described I do not think extravagant ; it usually amounts to ten rubles each person per diem ; but as we have an extra sitting-room, for which we pay three rubles additional, and a bottle of wine at five rubles, our absolute and necessary expenses amount to fifteen hundred rubles, or, at the present rate of exchange, about seventy pounds sterling per month, for the two, which enables us to do every thing in the first style. The other incidental expenses of course depend upon ourselves.

Having now given you a tolerably correct notion of the city, and of how we are established, I will just glance at the variableness of the weather, and at the freezing of the river, and then give you a cessation of hostilities, till our introduction at court shall have provided fresh matter for your annoyance.

The following meteorological observations were always made at eight o'clock in the morning, and I think you will allow more variableness could not have been well experienced :—

1822	Faren.	State of Wind and Weather.
October 9		Fine.
10		"
11		"
12		"
13		Rain.
14		"
15		Cloudy.
16		Wet.
17		Fine.
18		"
19		Wet.
21		"
22		Fine, S.W.
23		Dry, wet.
24		Wet, dry, and cold.
25		Dry, North.
26	°	Frost, East.
27	34	Damp.
28	40	Hazy.
29	49	"
30	28	Snow, dull, and cold.
31	24	Clear.
November 1	26	Snow.
2	33	Rain.
3	43	"
4	48	"
5	44	" S.W.
6	44	Hazy, West.
7	44	Dry.
8	33	Hazy.
9	22	Dry, East.
10	20	Little snow.
11	22	Fine, North.
12	29	Clear.
13	32	Gale, West.
14	20	Fine. Steam-boats ceased to go to Cronstadt, fearing the ice.
15	18	Fine.
16	26	" Bridges removed, ice having come down from the Ladoga.
17	36	Snow and rain.
18	40	Rain.
19	31	Clear, N.W. Bridges replaced, the river being clear; but the water rising, the usual alarm signals were made, but it subsided without overflowing the banks.
20	38	Rain.
21	38	"
22	40	Foggy.
23	42	Wet, West.

1822	Faren.	State of Wind and Weather.
	°	
November 24	44	Wet, S.W.
25	42	Fog, calm.
26	22	Clear.
	42	Rain.
	22	Snow.
27	20	Strong wind, North.
28	17	SE. Snow at one time.
29	23	,, ,,
30	37	Cloudy, S.W.
December 1	34	Wet, S.W.
2	34	Wet and snow.
3	30	Snow and sleet.
4	31	Snow. Sledges used for the first time.
5	35	Dirty, S.W. Sledges laid down again.
6	38	Mild, South.
7	36	Hazy, West.
8	31	Dirty, S.W.
9	36	Hazy, West.
10	36	Dryer.
11	33	Clear.
12	33	,, W.N.W.
13	34	Damp, West.
14	31	Frost, thaw, and snow, N.E.
15	31	Wet, S.E.
16	23	Sleet and frost.
17	25	Moderate.
18	21	S.W. Bridges removed.
19	28	Dry, West.
20	31	Snow. River impassable.
21	23	Clear. Ice set again in motion, and at length finally fixed.
22	16	Clear, West.
23	21	Snow, East. River crossed by the ice.

The freezing of the Neva is generally attended with much inconvenience, from the bridges being obliged to be removed, and the communication between different parts of the city thereby cut off.

The surface of the Ladoga is frozen in the first instance, and when wind or any other cause breaks it up, and sends the pieces floating with the current down the Neva, a good look-out is kept by people appointed for the purpose, that masses do not accumulate at the bows of the boats: the moment a piece or pieces too large to pass between them is discovered, the bolts which confine the bridge to

the Admiralty side are drawn, the cables of all the boats slipped, and the bridge swings most majestically with the stream, till it comes fairly alongside of the opposite bank. The scene of anxiety and confusion attending this operation is very amusing to the unconcerned spectator. This arises from the exertions of different people not to be cut off from their homes, and from their attempts to elude the vigilance of the sentries placed to prevent their passing at the moment when, perhaps, it is necessary to cast off. The devotion with which they crossed themselves on reaching the desired side, exceeded any thing we had ever seen in the most rigid and superstitious Roman Catholic countries. The masses of ice seldom unite till there comes a fall of snow, which was the case on the 20th instant. Yesterday the police marked the different roads, and this morning the passengers, carriages, and horses are driving across, as if on *terra firma*, whilst people are employed in cutting a canal to allow the bridges to be replaced, when all will go on again as usual.

While the ice was in motion, government boats were employed in carrying passengers across, and a good deal of address was required on the part of the crews to prevent being caught between the masses, and carried into the gulf. The floating pieces of ice, many of them covered with myriads of crows, the boats, the passengers, and the number of droskies waiting for them, or soliciting to be employed, presented to us a scene of life and activity at once novel and amusing.

LETTER XII.

Invitation to Court—Imperial Levy—The Royal Family—Imperial Ball and Superb Supper—General Scramble for the Remnants—Profusion of Diamonds—Royal Family of Georgia—Fees to Court Servants—English Chapel and Chaplain—Celebration of Christmas Day—Grand Illuminations—Masquerades—New Year's Day—Superb Fête interrupted by a sudden Death—Lying in State and Funeral—Death of a Royal Infant—Convent of Alexander Nevsky—Cathedral of the Holy Virgin of Casan—Costume and Discipline of the Russian Clergy—History of the Russian Church—Regulation of the Russian Monasteries and Nunneries—Ecclesiastical Establishment and Polity—Church Service—Spiritual Schools—The four Fasts—Russian Toleration—Dissenters from the Established Church—Sanctification of the Waters—The Frozen Market—The Game Market—Sledge Travelling to Cronstadt—Winter Landscape—Catharinehof—The Fine Arts, and Literature—The Observatory—The Gottorp Globe—*Le Couvent des Demoiselles Nobles*—*Les Tableaux Vivans*—Violation of Private Letters at the Post Office—Departure for Revel.

St. Petersburg, ½ January, 1823.

Our invitation to court was announced to us by the following letter from the grand master of the ceremonies, addressed to me; a similar one being sent to my brother:—

"M. de Kologrivof, Grand Maître des Cérémonies, a l'honneur de prevenir Monsieur Jones, Capitaine de la Flotte de sa Majesté Britannique, qu'il sera presenté à leur Majestés les Imperatrices demain, Mardi, 12 de ce mois, anniversaire de la naissance de sa Majesté l'Empereur, après le circle du Corps Diplomatique.

"Monsieur Jones est invité au bal qui aura lieu

le même jour, chez sa Majesté l'Imperatrice Mere, et qui commencera à 7 heures et demie du soir.

"*Lundi, ce* 11 *Decembre,* 1822."

We arrived at the palace by the door on the quay at a little before noon, and were conducted by the *Meneurs,* dressed in scarlet, and caps with black ostrich feathers, through several apartments, where there were different guards, from the cossack to the chevalier guard, all of whom fell in, and presented arms, till we came to the *Salle de Réunion,* in which the grand master of the ceremonies and his deputy received us, and where we were soon joined by the whole *Corps Diplomatique* in full dress coats, but wearing boots, as is the custom with everybody in the morning.

We were afterwards taken into another apartment, and ranged according to rank, when folding doors were thrown open by pages, and an immense *cortège* of embroidered-coated chamberlains, military officers, *&c.,* made their appearance, preceding the empresses, who were followed by the Grand Duchess Nicholas, the Princess of Wirtemberg, the Queen of Georgia, and the Princess of Georgia, besides a number of maids of honour, and others.

The empress immediately approached Sir Charles Bagot, he having precedence, and he kissed her hand, when she entered into a long conversation with him, after which, she passed down the rank, talking more or less to every one, till at length she

only presented her hand without speaking. When she had done with the *Corps Diplomatique,* the presentations took place, and when I kissed her hand, she asked, in French, if I came by sea? How long since I had been employed? How long I intended to remain, and if Harry was my brother? and finished by saying, she was charmed to make my acquaintance.

The dowager empress followed, as she had done throughout the line; and when I had kissed her hand, she asked if I had not known her son at Plymouth, saying, he had spoken of me to her, and that he was much pleased with England? If I intended to visit Moscow; and if my brother had seen her son at Plymouth? finishing with the usual French compliment, "*Je suis charmée, &c.*"

They then quitted the room by an opposite door, and we returned home. The empress is a mild, benevolent-looking woman, with an expression of melancholy in her eyes, which, at the same time, bespeak great goodness of heart. She is truly beneficent and unaffected, her manners are extremely graceful, and she is said to be adored by all classes, but never to interfere with public affairs, preferring quiet and retirement.

The dowager has a tall, commanding person, holding her head erect, walking with much majesty, and is said to affect the air of the late Catharine, whom she is not much unlike in person. She was richly dressed, and is fond of state and ceremony.

In the evening we arrived in the ball-room at a

little before eight, at which hour precisely the two empresses entered; the reigning one, after bowing generally to the company, selected the Grand Duke Nicholas, and walked a *polonoise* with him, after which she did the same with Sir Charles Bagot, and two or three officers of high rank, when she addressed some of the ladies, and then taking her seat, waltzing and quadrilles began. The dowager, upon coming in, entered into and continued in conversation chiefly with the *Corps Diplomatique*. There were five hundred persons present; the two halls (St. George's and the White one) were brilliantly illuminated, and the whole had a gay effect: the dancing was in the latter, while the former was laid out with card and chess tables; and in a recess on each side of the throne, there was a grand display of old and massy gold plate, arranged to great advantage, and from behind which refreshments were served to the company by persons who were unseen. One salver, of the age of Peter the Great, was ornamented with anchors and grapnels embossed. The empresses occasionally promenaded till eleven, and conversed with a select few; when supper was announced, and we found it most tastefully arranged, as if in an orangery or conservatory, for we approached the table through alleys of orange trees, bearing fruit, and found the tables ornamented with the choicest exotic flowers. Two tables forming a T, but separated, occupied the centre; at the upper one were the imperial family, chief officers of state, full ambassadors, and their ladies.

At the lower one sat the *Corps Diplomatique*, and the strangers who had been introduced: the latter were only four in number.

The natives were at different tables, placed to the greatest advantage for effect. There was a great display of plate, the supper was good, and the wines excellent.

The dowager empress came round, and spoke to every person at our table. She asked me if I was pleased with it, and thought it magnificent. After we had been about forty minutes at table, the empress retired, when a most unexpected, extraordinary, but amusing scene took place—a general scramble for the good things which were left, particularly at the imperial table. Generals, counts, and subs, with their gold-laced coats, pocketing without mercy, and struggling to outdo the domestics, who did not appear to pay them much respect, or to be willing to allow them to carry off the spoils quietly; and in five minutes there was a perfect scene of devastation, even the very candles were carried off by the attendants, and to the blaze of splendour which we had just witnessed, succeeded darkness scarcely visible.

It is too common to form a judgment of and condemn a whole nation from local circumstances; and without reflection one might be led to judge harshly of the state of society in this country, from the above scene; but upon mature reflection and inquiry, this would not be justified. By the custom of the country, what has once been put upon the

tables at an imperial *fête*, can never be brought into use again for the family, and consequently the fragments become the perquisites of the attendants. We know with what devotion and respect the nobility have always looked up to the imperial family, and consequently they esteem it an honour to possess any thing which has belonged to them; and therefore a father, a brother, or a relation, who may be at these *fêtes*, is earnestly invited by the young ones who remain at home to bring them some memento from the imperial table, and thus, from the most amiable of motives, arises that which appears to a stranger, a most disgraceful scramble. The *bon bons* with which a grown up person is filling his pockets, are not for his own use, but for the gratification of some sister or brother, *&c.*, who has not had the honour of being at court. You will readily conceive, in this climate, and at this season, how highly the most beautiful hot-house plants and flowers must be prized; the tables, particularly the imperial one, are covered with them, and as they can never again be returned to the conservatories, and as a man, however anxious he may be, cannot carry home and present to his family the plant entire, he is reduced to the alternative of either not gratifying an amiable wish and feeling, or else, with ruthless hand to pluck off the flower, and perhaps ruin the plant altogether. Thus, what at first appears a disgraceful scramble, is, in fact, as I have before stated, the effect of a most amiable feeling, which it is highly honourable to gratify.

Dancing recommenced in the ball-room ; but precisely at midnight the empresses retired, and the company separated as fast as they could case themselves in their furs (the thermometer being at eleven degrees) and find their carriages. Upon the whole it was a most pleasant and gratifying evening. The gentlemen preponderated in a striking degree over the ladies, there not being more than a hundred of the latter ; it not appearing to follow at all as a matter of course, that because the husband is eligible to be invited, or to attend at court, that his wife is also admissible. The dancing was extremely elegant ; but I cannot say much for the display of beauty, whatever I may do for that of diamonds, the profusion of which on the persons of the two empresses, particularly the dowager, exceeded any thing it is possible to imagine. We were particularly struck by the miniature of Paul, encircled with large diamonds, which his widow wore at her neck, and appeared to take particular pains to expose to view, as if she gloried in doing honour to his memory, and delighted to confront his enemies.

The deposed Georgian royal family was present : it consists of the queen, the widow of the Tzar George Heraclievitch, her two daughters and two sons. The former are said to have been pretty ; but if so, time, that destroyer of all sublunary things, has made dreadful ravages on them. They wore small round coifs on their heads, which, as well as the rest of their dress, were by no means becoming.

The princes were in a sort of Russo-Georgian

costume, and wearing daggers richly mounted. The whole of the family appeared melancholy and unhappy; they have precedence next to the imperial family; but, deprived of liberty, where can happiness be found? bondage is still bondage, however highly the chains may be gilt: they have been in Petersburg ever since 1801, when the tzar, unable to withstand the attacks and intrigues of foreign and domestic enemies, surrendered his authority and dominions into the hands of Paul, under a stipulation of himself and family being handsomely provided for in the Russian capital. They all soon arrived at Petersburg, with the exception of his fourth son, Alexander, who, possessing a high and independent spirit, together with an ardent love of his country, preferred liberty, although accompanied by every privation; and vowing eternal enmity to the Russian name and power, he became a wanderer in the surrounding mountains. His enmity is said to increase, and not diminish, by time, although any thing like resistance to the power of Russia must long since have become perfectly hopeless, even if supported by Persia, with the Shah of which he is said to be in constant communication, and watching for a favourable opportunity to endeavour to recover and emancipate his lost territory. The princess of Wirtemberg was certainly the prettiest woman and best dancer in the room, and her father (the dowager empress's brother) was the ugliest man, having a large wen on his forehead.

The galleries round both the halls were filled with spectators; the one in the ball-room with those apparently of the common sort, while that of the upper room had a display of well-dressed females.

We were rather surprised next day by a visit from some of the court servants; we gave them ten rubles, with which they were perfectly contented. The livery is green, with red cuffs and collars, not unlike that of Monsieur in France.

We have adopted, in every respect, the winter costume. The carriage and four is changed for a sledge and pair, in which we ride, night and day, wrapped up in a bear-skin shube, fur cap, gloves, and boots. The sledge, upon the whole, is ill-contrived and uncomfortable, there not being any thing to protect the occupant from the snow or dirt, which the horses kick up behind them: from the foot-pavement being kept clean and sanded, there is an accumulation of sand in the middle of the street, which renders driving extremely unpleasant. Some people still drive their close carriages, with wheels one-third of a circle, and which do not traverse.

We intended to take a trip to Revel immediately after the ball, but the roads are said not to be in good order, and the peasantry have just now delivered themselves up to licentiousness and drunkenness, which will continue, and render it unsafe to travel till after twelfth day.

Although there is a beautiful English chapel here,

and a clergyman handsomely paid by the Russian company, the service is performed, and the feasts are kept, not according to the English, but to the Russian calendar, so that our Christmas-day passed unobserved as a church rite, but we found true English fare and hospitality at the house of a countryman, enjoying a high and confidential situation under the crown—a house in which we ever find a liberal and hearty welcome.

The Christmas-day of the Greek church was not observed in any very particular manner till the evening, when an illumination took place; that is to say, earthen pots, with tallow and a lighted wick, were placed along the foot-pavement at each of the curb stones, which extend through the principal streets, and many of the houses and public buildings were illuminated in a similar manner; but nothing in the shape of a device or variegation was to be seen, although we drove through the city about nine o'clock, when the illumination was at its height.

The whole of the windows of the Land Cadet Corps and of the Academy of Sciences were lighted, and, when viewed from the Isaac Place, had, from the great extent of blaze, and their superiority over all other buildings, rather a grand effect. About this period public masquerades were got up; we went to two at the Russian theatre, and at the American club: we found them badly attended, and not kept up with any spirit. An immense number of the police were in the rooms, and if anybody

appeared to enliven the scene by a little merriment, they directly checked it; and if the person at all wished to keep up the joke, he was immediately obliged to unmask and give his name, *&c.* The entrance was five rubles; there were three bands, and refreshments were to be had on reasonable terms.

On New-year's-day we went to court in the morning with the *Corps Diplomatique*, in order to felicitate the empresses, and we had again the honour to kiss their hands. It is usual to have a *fête* on the occasion, and the Grand Veneur Nariskin had issued cards, and made extraordinary preparations for entertaining the imperial family, and the principal people of Petersburg, in a style of magnificence and expense unequalled (at least since the celebrated *fête* given by Potemkin to Catharine in the Taurida palace). We were congratulated by everybody upon the opportunity which it would afford us of seeing Russian splendour and taste. The horn music had even been procured from Moscow: in short, nothing worthy of the richest subject (and indeed a relation of the imperial families) would have been wanted for our gratification, when, unfortunately, the whole was put a stop to by the death of his sister-in-law, the wife of his brother, the grand chamberlain, and in lieu of the *fête*, we received the following invitation to attend her funeral:—

"Le Grand Chambellan Nariskin vous prie de

vouloir bien assister aux funérailles de son epouse, Madame Nariskin, Dame d'honneur de LL. MM. II. décédée le 30 Décembre, qui auront lieu au Couvent de St. Alexandre Nevsky, le 3 Janvier, 1823, à 10 heures du matin."

The body lay in state in a *chapelle ardente*, in the house, with mutes and a priest constantly praying over it till the evening of the 2nd, when it was privately removed to the convent, where we arrived at the appointed time (the thermometer at four degrees below zero), and found the body placed in a coffin on a platform, under a canopy, and covered with an extraordinarily richly embroidered cloth of gold, which is always very expensive, and becomes on these occasions the property of the church. On this were placed the different Orders of the deceased.

In about a quarter of an hour the metropolitan, attended by two archbishops and ten bishops, made his appearance, went up to the altar and kissed the paintings of our Saviour, and of the Virgin; after which his paraphernalia were brought out, each piece being separately blessed, kissed, and put on with much ceremony. A fine, flowing head of hair appears to be indispensable for arriving at dignity in the Greek church: much attention was paid to that of the metropolitan while robing him. The whole of the sacerdotal habits were rich, but the mitres were particularly so in pearls.

High mass was then performed with much so-

lemnity and effect; the vocal music (for instrumental is excluded from the Greek church) was delightful, producing extraordinary harmony—not a note broken, or misplayed in any respect.

After the mass, the monks made a lane, and the metropolitan, the archbishops, and bishops, placed themselves round the coffin. Wax tapers were put in the hands of everybody; the ceremony became very solemn, and the prayer for the dead was rehearsed, when the metropolitan went round, preceded by incense, and blessed the congregation. After which the prayer, "Hope and Confession of a Faithful Christian," vulgarly called the Passport, was read, and placed on the coffin. It is nothing more than a meek confession of unworthiness, and ends thus:—

"And with this faith, in the presence of the ever Virgin Mary, the Mother of God, and of all Holy Saints, who are acceptable unto thee, and through the prayers of the church, I come unto thee, O Lord, without doubt, and at the separation of my soul from my body, I beseech thee, O Lord, to receive my spirit into thine hands, and, according to thy mercy, to admit me into the evangelical beatitude, for ever and ever, Amen.—Year—month—buried here."

The relations then went round and kissed the coffin. Sometimes they kiss the body, but in this instance it was, even yesterday, too far gone. It was then borne by them to the grave, into which it

was lowered with an accompanying prayer. Some sugar, raisins, and cake were then set before the altar, over which prayers were said; and immediately afterwards everybody departed *sans cérémonie*, many, I dare say, heartily glad to be released, for it was bitterly cold. We, however, staid to examine the convent, which is extensive, and the dome is particularly fine; but it is chiefly remarkable for containing the shrine of the saint, whose name it bears, and who was an ancestor of Peter the Great, and a great warrior. The monastery was founded, and the body removed into it from Godoretch, about the year 1724. The shrine, which was erected by Catharine II., is of silver, and is said to weigh eighty pouds, or three thousand two hundred and forty pounds: on it is inscribed the various victories of the saint, and a lamp is kept constantly burning before it. The sacristy contains many valuable articles of the communion service.

Near the shrine is a painting, representing the reception of the present empress into the bosom of the Greek church previous to her marriage in 1793, to the then Grand Duke Alexander. It is more valuable for the fidelity with which the members of the imperial family are delineated, than for its execution as a work of art.

In a smaller or winter chapel, there are several monuments with lamps burning before them, for which an annual sum is paid to the monks. The two daughters of the emperor are buried in it—they both

died very young—the death of the last is said to have caused an extraordinary sensation, and to have elicited stronger marks of displeasure at the father's conduct than might have been expected to have been tolerated by a watchful police. But in any country, however despotic, it is difficult and dangerous to stifle popular feeling, when excited by any strong cause, in which the populace think themselves called upon as men to declare an opinion.

The emperor, according to report, was at the moment infatuated with Madame ———, the child became ill, the mother was distracted, and never quitted it, while the father was in the arms of Madame ———; and so anxious were the populace about both mother and daughter, that the palace was surrounded by them during an inclement night. The emperor was ineffectually sent for; at length the child died in its mother's arms, and when the emperor, upon hearing of it, did arrive, such was the public indignation, that he was obliged to enter by a private door. So much irritation is said afterwards to have taken place between them, that the empress made every arrangement for quitting the empire, saying, that either herself or Madame ——— must leave Russia. In consequence Madame ——— was sent to France, where she is educating a daughter she has had by the emperor, who has since become gradually more and more attached to the empress, and they are now said to live comfortably and happily together, showing an example

of conjugal felicity to their subjects. It is supposed the daughter by Madame ——— will be married to Sheremetof, one of the richest subjects in Russia.

The principal church in Petersburg is the cathedral of the Holy Virgin of Casan. It is in the form of a cross, terminating at each arm with a Corinthian portico; a lofty cupola rises from the centre, and the front is received into a semicircular colonnade, four columns in depth. Contrary to the tenets of their religion, there are four colossal figures of saints near the principal entrance.

The interior is magnificent, and in every respect suited to the purposes of devotion: a mysterious, solemn gloom pervades the whole. The columns of the aisles are of highly-polished purple granite of an immense size; there are only two monuments in it, those of Kutusof and Moreau; over the latter is the baton of Davoust, and various trophies.

No seats, pews, organs, or other vocal instruments are ever allowed in a Greek church; consequently the whole presents one open space, with the exception of the altar, called the *Sanctum Sanctorum*, and into which females are never permitted to enter. In the middle of the altar stands the Holy Table, upon which a golden or silver cross, and a richly-ornamented copy of the Gospels are always laid, as no use of a complete copy of the Bible is ever made in their churches. They have only extracts from the Old Testament and the Epistles, and even many of the clergy in the coun-

try do not possess an entire copy of the scriptures. The congregation do not make use of books.

The altar is separated from the nave, or body of the church, by a screen, upon which pictures of our Saviour, the Virgin, the Apostles, and Saints are always painted. This screen is called the Ikonostes (ΕΙΚΟΝΟΚΛΑΣΤΗΣ), in the middle of which are the royal doors, which are opened and shut with great pomp and solemnity whenever the bishop retires or comes forth to bless the people; which, at the conclusion of the service, he does, with a chandelier in each hand, one containing three, and the other two lighted candles, which he repeatedly crosses over each other in different directions, and, waving them towards the congregation, he concludes a final benediction. These chandeliers are symbolical; one alludes to the Trinity, and the other to the two natures of Christ. The vocal part of the service is very fine, and appears to be almost a constant repetition of "*Gospodi Pomilui*," "Lord have mercy on us." If the metropolitan performs the service, he leaves the church with much, and even military, state, while rich and poor crowd round him in order to kiss his hand.

The inner walls and domes of the churches are covered with scriptural paintings, which, in general, represent the most interesting scenes of our Saviour's history. They are also ornamented with pictures of saints, adorned with pearls, gold, silver, and precious stones. The Glories are of the shape

of horse-shoes, and produce a singular effect: before these the people are continually crossing, bowing, and even sometimes prostrating themselves. There are more saints in the Greek calendar than there are days in the year.

The whole body of the clergy are dressed in the wide, flowing robes of the orientals, and are obliged to wear long beards and their hair floating upon their shoulders: this gives them a reverend appearance which tends not a little to impress the vulgar with false ideas of their sanctity, and also becomes a bar to their having a free intercourse with people of a different condition. To change the dress of the clergy, however, would prove difficult, for the people look upon it as holy—as the manner in which Christ and his apostles were arrayed, and therefore the only habit in which his ambassadors should appear. When not employed in their holy office they are, however, looked upon by the common Russian with contempt, bordering on disgust, and he conceives it a most unfortunate omen to meet a priest upon leaving his house to repair to his daily occupation, and would at any time walk a mile to avoid one.

The priests are enjoined to marry; but if the wife of a priest die he can not marry again, from whence arises the Russian proverb, "to be as well cherished as a priest's wife."

All religions are tolerated in Russia, but if a catholic or other religionist marries a woman of the Greek church, the issue of the marriage must be

brought up in her faith, and this is perfectly compulsatory.

The Russians were pagans till the year 988, when Vladimir embraced christianity, as professed by the Eastern Greek church. With all its ordinary rites and ceremonies, it has been preserved in nearly the same state in which it was received by these people whom Vladimir forced in a very summary manner to become proselytes—much in the same way as was more recently adopted by our Eighth Henry, though certainly from purer motives.

After the conversion, civilization soon made rapid progress in Russia, particularly by the means of learned foreigners who were invited to settle in the empire, in order to propagate the newly-embraced faith, and to fill the chief offices of the church. But it was not till the accession of the present dynasty of Romanof to the throne in 1613, that general civilization became an object of the first importance with government, an object which each succeeding sovereign has pursued with unceasing and laudable anxiety, particularly the Great Peter, Catharine II. and his present enlightened and beneficent majesty.

The clergy possessing almost exclusively the learning of the empire, took, as might naturally be expected, a very prominent station not only in society but in the state, the power of the patriarch being almost equal to that of the tzar, after whom he took the first seat, and had a chief voice in all the affairs

of the empire, both civil and religious. Without his blessing neither war was declared nor peace concluded. From these peculiar privileges and the influence possessed by the patriarch over the clergy and people, it not unfrequently happened that he opposed his voice to that of the tzar and nobles in national affairs of importance, for no other reason than because he had not been previously consulted. On this account, Peter the Great, on the death of the last patriarch Adrian, in 1700, abolished the patriarchal office, and appointed an ex-arch or viceregent of the holy see, with limited powers; but in 1721 he also abolished this latter office, and in place of it instituted the Holy Legislative Synod, and furnished it with instructions for the government of spiritual affairs under his own particular cognizance. The number of this Synod is now indefinite, and the choice and appointment of its members depend entirely on the will of the sovereign. At the head of the Holy Legislative Synod there is always a layman, denominated the Ober Procurator, who is considered as sitting there on the part of the crown, and he has a negative on all its resolutions, till laid before the emperor. The whole government and spiritual concerns of the church are vested in the Holy Synod established at Petersburg; but subordinate branches of it are to be found in nearly every district—government, and the ministers of religion are now probably amongst the most faithful and obedient servants of the crown. The greater part of the superior

clergy at the present day are men of learning, and many of them are possessed of distinguished abilities. Their theological writings, especially of late years, have done honour to their profession and country; but unfortunately for their literary reputation they write in a language which is unknown to the other nations of Europe, and an eminent author has said, "that the superior clergy of Russia are men whose candour, modesty, and truly primitive simplicity of manners, would have illustrated the first ages of christianity."

The clergy are divided into regular and secular. The former are all monks, and the latter are the parochial clergy.

The superior clergy are divided into metropolitans, archbishops, and bishops, who are indiscriminately styled archirès; promotion to which rank depends entirely on the will of the sovereign. After the archirès, the next in order of dignity are those called the black clergy, to which class belong the archimandrites or chiefs of monasteries, from amongst whom the bishops are always chosen; also the hegumins (rulers) chiefs of small convents of which they have the direction, teromonachs (monks who are priests), and terodiacens (monks who are deacons) who perform divine service in the monasteries, and last of all the monks. All the black clergy, and also the archirès, according to the regulations of the Greek church, are obliged to lead rigid and recluse lives, are forbidden animal food, and are not per-

mitted to marry after entering into this order. They compose the regular clergy and consider themselves superior to the secular priests in respect both of rank and learning, for the whole power and dignity of the Russian church are exclusively vested in them.

The secular priests are called the white clergy, and consist of Proto-popes, Priests, and Deacons, together with the Readers and Sacristans. According to the statement published by the Holy Synod in 1805, the number of Proto-popes, Priests, and Deacons in actual employ was forty-four thousand four hundred and eighty-seven, and of Readers and Sacristans, fifty-four thousand two hundred and thirty-nine.

The Proto-popes, Priests, and Deacons must all have been educated in the spiritual schools, and must be married before they can be ordained to these offices, but they are restricted from marrying widows. The death of their wives, however, does not, as formerly, prevent their officiating as priests, though they are not allowed to marry a second time. But they are at liberty to enter into the order of the black clergy by becoming monks, and thus the way is open before them to the first dignities of the Russian church. Those again who desire to marry a second time, must first resign their office in the priesthood, and are for ever excluded from that order, the members of which, by an order of Peter the Great, were, in consequence of their great irre-

gularities, registered, and are now obliged to send their sons to the spiritual schools to receive a suitable education for the ministry, none being admitted to the offices of secular priests but the sons of the clergy. Hence many thousands of these men have entered into the priestly order not from choice but necessity, yet many of them are learned and worthy characters: their duties are particularly laborious. The service of the church must regularly be performed three times a day, and which from its excessive length, together with the numerous and complicated ceremonies attending the administration of baptism, marriage, burial of the dead, visiting of the sick, *&c.*, leaves them but little leisure for study. To these causes may be attributed that want of zeal and activity in advancing the true interests of religion and morality, which in general forms such a conspicious feature in the character of the Russian clergy.

Among their peculiar privileges may be mentioned their complete exemption from all civil taxes. They are also exempted from corporal punishment, even in the case of committing capital crimes.

The wisdom of Peter the Great is in nothing more conspicuous than in the prudent regulations which he introduced into the monasteries and nunneries of Russia, and in the restrictions which he laid upon entering into the monastic state. These since his time have effectually remedied the disorders which had formerly prevailed among the monks and nuns,

and prevented indolent peasants and others from abandoning society, a practice so injurious to the interests of the community in every nation, but particularly so in Russia, where the population, in proportion to the extent of territory, is still so small, not being one-twelfth of what she is capable of supporting, or amounting to only fifty-three million instead of to six hundred and thirty-six million souls.

In consequence of which, the rage that formerly prevailed in Russia for the monastic life, has been so effectually suppressed, that at the present day the monasteries and nunneries of the empire, in comparison of what they formerly were, are literally deserted, for in three hundred and eighty-seven monasteries we find no more than four thousand nine hundred and one monks; and in ninety-one nunneries, one thousand six hundred and ninety-six nuns. The monastic order cannot, however, be altogether abolished without an essential change in the constitution of the church, for the higher ranks of the clergy can only be chosen from amongst the monks, who are all of the order of St. Basil: the degrees are those of probationer, proficient, and perfect. The order and discipline are the same in the nunneries as in the monasteries; the former at present are properly nothing but asylums for aged or unfortunate females who there spend the remainder of their days in retirement, most of them usefully employed. It would be altogether inconsistent with justice and truth, to consider them as belonging to

those retreats of licentiousness and vice, covered with the black veil of feigned devotion, of which we have so many shocking accounts in ecclesiastical history.

The whole Russian empire is divided into thirty-six diocesses or eparchies, which in extent are nearly the same as the divisions of the empire, into provinces or governments. In these there are four hundred and eighty-three cathedrals, and twenty-six thousand five hundred and ninety-eight churches.

Both in monasteries and parish churches the service is performed three times a day. The greater part of the service consists of psalms and hymns, which according to the regulation ought to be sung, but are now mostly read. The length of the service has also given rise to the unintelligible manner in which most of it is now performed, for the priests and readers, in order to get the more quickly through it, have fallen into the practice of reading the hymns and prayers so quickly and in such a tone of voice as renders the greater part of them impossible to be understood by the congregation.

The number of spiritual schools in different parts of the empire is fifty-eight, of which four are academies, thirty-six seminaries, and eighteen inferior schools; in which latter the Russian language, arithmetic, and the doctrines of christianity, are the chief subjects of study. By an imperial Ukaz of 1802, a medical class was ordered to be instituted in all the academies and seminaries of the clergy, and the several branches of learning taught in these schools

at present, are grammar, rhetoric, natural and moral philosophy, divinity, some branches of mathematics, history, and geography, in the Latin and Russ languages. In the four academies, and in some of the seminaries, the Hebrew, Greek, German, and French languages are also studied.

There are properly no regular academical degrees in the seminaries of the clergy; but, I understand, it is under consideration to introduce the same mode of education, and the same academical honours which now exist in the universities and civil academies.

These schools have always been of essential advantage to the empire, not only as nurseries for those who are to fill the clerical office, but as they have produced many individuals, by whose services, in various civil departments, society at large has been highly benefited.

At present, indeed, there is hardly an institution for education in any part of the empire, in which some of the young men brought up in these seminaries, are not to be found holding the office of teachers; and since the year 1780 more than eight thousand of them have been permitted to enter into the civil service of their country. On the whole, there are said to be fifty-two thousand scholars in the different clerical schools of the empire. The mode of living in these seminaries is in every respect monastic; for the teachers and overseers are all monks, who have introduced into them a degree of abstemiousness in respect to diet, and of sloven-

liness in dress, and in other accommodations, which are detrimental and not beneficial, as they pretend, to literary pursuits.

Platon, the Russian Archbishop, says of fasting, that it is a denial of our appetites, by restraining their impetuosity, and subjecting them to reason. In order to restrain our appetites, it is good sometimes to refrain from food, thereby to bridle the animal desires, which by luxury and gratification are rendered more ungovernable, and thereby the soul is brought into a state of debility: indeed, abstinence is carried to such a pitch in this country, as to give rise to a saying, that "Russians think the only way to heaven is by starvation."

In the Greek church there are in the year four great fasts, or lents. During these fasts the Russians are not permitted to swallow flesh, milk, eggs, or butter, but confine themselves to vegetables, bread, and fish fried in oil. The fast before Easter is regulated by that moveable feast: it continues eight weeks, and is called the quadrigesimal. In the first week they live upon butter, eggs, milk, *&c.*, and abstain only from meat; it is called *maslonitza*, that is, butter week, and may be looked upon as their carnival, it being spent in public diversions. The next is called St. Peter's fast, and lasts from the Monday after Whitsunday, to the 29th of June, and, consequently, is sometimes longer and sometimes shorter. The fast of the blessed Virgin is immovable; it begins always on the 1st, and con-

tinues till the 15th day of August. St. Philip's is also immovable, beginning on the 15th of November, and continuing to the 26th of December. Besides these, the usual fast-days are, the Wednesdays and Fridays throughout the year. These institutions were originally intended for monasteries; but the second and seventh precept of the church impose them upon all members alike, except that monastics are never allowed to eat flesh. All the fasts are in general strictly kept by the common people, but few of the nobility observe any of them, except the first or last week of the great fast before Easter, when they are about to take the communion.

The Russians of all ranks are in general void of that persecuting rancour against other religious persuasions, which is so characteristic of Roman Catholics; and though they adhere strictly to the doctrines and ceremonies of their own church, not only the laity, but even the clergy, are far from thinking there is no salvation without her pale. The government, as has been elsewhere observed, is most tolerant, permitting every sect to rear its own temple, in the most public manner, as is fully developed in this city. But independent of foreigners, it is supposed that there are not less than two millions of Russian dissenters from the mother church. These are known under the general appellation of Raskolniks or schismatics, but they are subdivided into many different sects, the chief of

which are the Popoftschins, or those whose priests have been brought up in the mother church, but have left her communion. The next are the Bezpopoftschins, who either have no regular priests at all, or refuse to acknowledge as such those who have been ordained in the established church. The first authentic record of these sects only goes back to the beginning of the fifteenth century, at a time when the nation was groaning under the yoke of Mahometan oppression, and the affairs of the church as well as of the state were involved in confusion. After the expulsion of the Tartars, an attempt was made by Vasilic Ioansvitch to correct the numerous errors, which, through the multiplication of transcripts, and the ignorance of copyists, had crept into the manuscript-books, containing the Christian church-service; at which the sectarians, or dissenters from the mother church, appear to have taken great alarm. They seem to have carried their opposition to such a length, and to have made so many and violent converts, as to have caused great uneasiness to government, and to the ministers of the established church. From both of these they have at different times suffered much persecution, even till the early part of the reign of Catharine II.; when to their fanaticism must be attributed much of the early success attending the extraordinary rebellion of Pugatshof. Some time after its suppression, Catharine ceased to persecute these sectarians; since which they have been amongst the most orderly of subjects,

and at present their difference with the national church does not properly relate to the grand articles of faith. They, like the established church, hold the Nicene creed to be the standard of their belief, but they refuse to join the established church, because they say, that in the time of the patriarch Nikon, about 1660, the church-books and ceremonies were in many places changed, and heretical practices and opinions introduced. The contest, accordingly, between the greater part of the Raskolniks and the church is, not whether pictures should be used in divine worship, but whether the old or new ones should be made use of; it is not whether upwards of twenty volumes folio, containing their church-service, teach doctrines agreeable to the word of God, but whether they should hold the old manuscript copies of them to be correct, or receive those which had been corrected and printed in the time of Nikon. After the various unsuccessful attempts which had been made by government to bring the Raskolniks again into the bosom of the church, Catharine in 1785, published a manifesto, in which permission is granted to them to use the old manuscript-books; and they are entreated to receive regularly-ordained priests from the mother church. This proposal has been embraced, as has been before observed, by the one sect, but not by the other; however, all open persecution has since ceased. Most of the opulent Russian merchants are dissenters, who style them-

selves Starovertsi, or believers of the old faith; to which name, however, a very general odium is attached.

The Roman Catholic religion is held in great abhorrence, and all the Greek churches are surmounted with a St. Andrew's, instead of a St. George's cross, and the people cross themselves from the right instead of from the left breast; in both cases merely to differ from the papists.

The great ceremony of the sanctification of the waters, usually performed upon a river, is in remembrance of our Saviour's baptism, as well as of our own, and the place of performance is called Jordan: it usually takes place on twelfth-day. It was formerly attended with great pomp and state, but from the severe inconvenience felt from the extreme cold at that season, it has of late lost much of its splendour and solemnity, and this was the case when we witnessed it. A temple of wood was erected on the ice of the Neva, and it was hung round with sacred pictures, in allusion to the baptism of our Lord in the river Jordan; in the centre of the temple a hole was cut in the ice. The bishop, after having blessed the water, by immersing the holy cross in it, took some in a dish, and with it made the sign of the cross on the foreheads of all the clergy and principal persons present; after which the clergy drank a little of it, and, on a signal being made, a salute was fired from the fortress: formerly, all the troops were drawn out on the ice, but on this occasion,

only a few were out, and merely the colours of the different regiments.

We went early to the palace, in order to see the procession leave the chapel, and pass down the grand staircase, where the two empresses and all the females quitted it, in order to take their stations at the windows of the apartments of Prince Volskonsky. After the clergy, came the Grand Dukes Nicholas and Michael, followed by a few military officers. However, there was a superb *cortège* of the court servants, in grand *tenue*, the two hussars of the dowager empress bringing up the rear, and who, as soon as the benediction was over, returned to the palace, with two silver tankards filled with the water.

There was also a general rush of the spectators to procure bottles full of it, or to dip their heads in and cross themselves, when an alarm was given, that the ice was breaking, and a momentary consternation took place, but which their superstitious devotion soon conquered.

The weather was dreadfully cold, the thermometer standing at six degrees below zero, yet the priests and dukes remained without their hats; however, many people kept theirs on, and we were glad to follow their example: the whole ceremony lasted about half an hour. The dispensing with the attendance of the military is very wise, for I have been credibly informed, that it was usually followed by numbers going to the hospital, half of whom died.

As I have before remarked, a mild winter is a curse instead of a blessing to this country, as the supplies for Petersburg and Moscow are brought on sledges in a frozen state; and a general market, called the frozen market, is held the three days immediately preceding Christmas, when it closes. Although this cannot be called a mild winter, it continued open unusually late, which has been equally prejudicial to the preservation and transport of provisions, in consequence of which, the frozen market here has not been so extensive, or so well attended as usual. We visited it every day, and witnessed a very novel scene. It was held in an open field outside of the town, to the eastward. There were one thousand four hundred sledges, divided into five lines, in which the various articles were regularly and tastefully disposed; the arrangement consisted in making them stand by themselves in ridiculous attitudes; they comprised chiefly hogs, whole oxen, sheep, and calves, the three last decapitated; geese, ducks, fowls, eggs, and butter: a few shops sold linen. Some of the meat looked tolerably good; but the poultry, in general, was disgusting, from not having been properly frozen in the first instance, or (perhaps owing to the extreme variableness of the weather) from its having been thawed and frozen several times: be that as it may, the first day's sale was heavy, the second more animated, and by sun-set on Christmas eve, when it closed, the whole had been disposed of.

The police were always in attendance, but there did not appear to be any disputes, nor did we observe a single person in a state of inebriety, although it is said to be generally a drunken and quarrelsome time.

Besides the above market, there is in the town one called the game market, where not only game, but poultry of every description is sold throughout the winter. We always find the whole in excellent order, the continual quantity of which surprises us a good deal, as it never seems to diminish. It arrives in wholesale, packed up in mats, and when exposed, is immediately bought up by factors, and subsequently sold to the retail dealers.

Adjoining this market is another, entirely appropriated to living, small birds, pigeons, and fancy fowls, which all appear lively, notwithstanding the severity of the weather, and their troughs being filled with snow. Some of the fowls are loose and running about indiscriminately with cats.

That provisions are at a moderate price, you will readily imagine, from the account I have already given of the rate and manner of our living, when it is considered that Mr. Page, our landlord, in common with everybody else, pays enormously for house rent, and for a tax on his license.

On the 21st, by way of making a trial of our ability to stand the sledge travelling, we went down to Cronstadt over the ice, the thermometer standing

at twelve degrees of Reaumur. We found the road tolerably good, and marked off by poles, with square plates of tin or iron to represent, and in fact they are called, flags. The distance is twenty-two versts, which we performed with a pair of miserably looking horses; in one hour and a half. Our servant insisted upon standing up behind, although we wished him to have a place in front. We had occasionally spoken to him during the drive, but as we approached Cronstadt, our attention was so much occupied by the interesting scene before us, that we forgot him, and you will readily imagine our horror on our arrival at the barrier, and having our passport demanded, to find him missing, and one of his gloves hanging in the loop. No trace could be discovered of him, and we imagined him either to have fallen off in a fit, or from the effect of cold; in either case his death was too probable: however, fortunately as we were about to retrace our steps in search of him, he was discovered at a distance coming towards us. It appeared, that on passing a ridge or rut, he was jolted off, and before he could recover himself, we were, from our velocity, out of hearing: luckily he had not received any injury. During my anxiety about him, I had unconsciously remained without my gloves; the circulation of the blood in the fingers became stopped, and in restoring it I suffered inconceivable pain, for which, however, upon going outside of the mole, I was amply repaid by the unprecedented sight of a vessel

sailing into it: she was a ketch, which had been caught in the ice, at the distance of thirteen versts. A man had undertaken for six thousand rubles, to cut out a passage for her, which he was just completing as we arrived, and as the wind was light and fair, she had her sails set to keep her close up as they cut and sawed the ice. It was not more in general than a foot thick, but in some places where the sea had been agitated, they had found it as much as seven, and in consequence of this being unexpected, the contractor would hardly clear his expenses. The ice was first cut with axes, and then sawed by an instrument which worked at the upper part with a handle, and at the lower by a rope.

We walked a considerable distance into the gulf, and were in earnest conversation, when we were surprised by a loud report, as if a heavy gun had been fired at us, from one of the pile batteries to which we were near, but on looking, we could not perceive any smoke or person; however, we instantly discovered a crack, flying along before us in the ice, and proceeding from the air forcing its way up. This is said to be very common in North America, and indicative of firmness, so we easily reconciled ourselves to it, and did not allow our walk to be disturbed. Near the shore, we found a good deal of snow accumulated. Wild provided us, as he did the last time, with excellent cheer, and we soon forgot our dangers and fatigues, though we could not help contrasting the difference of scene presented at our

two visits. On the former all was life and animation, the mole filled with vessels, either taking in their cargoes or getting under weigh with them complete, while the town was enlivened with their crews and passengers—on the present occasion, the merchants' mole was empty, and presented, as well as the shore, one unvarying surface of white, with hardly a soul to be seen moving about the town. We, however, visited the public garden and the observatory. In the former is a good bust of Peter the Great; the grounds are said to be prettily laid out, and in summer, to have a pleasing effect, when it becomes a point of rendezvous in the evenings, and a band is always in attendance. The latter affords a source of amusement and instruction to the officers and their families, as the professor, a Dane, delivers public lectures on astronomy. Last year, from the mildness of the winter, there was so much delay and difficulty in sending down the supplies for the use of the island, that everybody underwent the most severe privations, and many, in attempting to reach the main land, narrowly escaped with their lives.

The morning of our return was equally cold, and before starting, one of our horses fell down from the severity of the frost. However, our driver soon put him in motion, and his blood in circulation, when we returned here by the way of Oranienbaum, a distance of forty versts, in four hours. Like Cronstadt, we found the road very different from the

former trip; there had been a fog in the morning, and all the branches of the trees were most beautifully incrusted with a coat of ice, giving them the appearance of white coral; the weeping birch presented a particularly elegant and soft appearance. The beards of all the mujuks which we passed were perfectly white from the same cause.

We stopt at the fourth verst from St. Petersburg, to examine the imperial foundery, which is under the direction of Mr. Clark, who has some clever workmen about him: they were making a steam-engine. A good deal of brass work is also done, and they make very good casts in iron, after the ancient masters. There are three hundred men employed, who have every thing except clothes found them, besides which, they receive a ruble a day. The situation is extremely low, and in wet weather is difficult of access.

Catharinehof lies more to the left, and nearer to the city; it is well wooded, and derives its name from a house which was built by Peter for his second wife, and in which, as usual, some of his wearing apparel is still preserved. Near the house stands an extensive sugar refinery, the property of Mr. Mollwo, an enterprising, intelligent German merchant, who refines about two million of pounds a year, besides distilling a considerable quantity of brandy: most of the foremen are Germans. For the encouragement of this, and similar establishments, the importation of lump or crushed sugar is

prohibited, much to the injury of our West India interests, as, from some cause or other, our sugar is considered too pure, while that from the Havannah or Brazils, brought chiefly in American vessels, supplies the market. I rather think, before the prohibition, our merchants imported it so nearly refined, that it came into general use, without the assistance of the Russian refiners, who complained of the abuse, and the importation was stopped altogether. As they cannot, however, supply sufficient for general consumption, our sugars must find their entrance either by fair or illicit means. It is but too probable that the very inadequate manner in which all the servants of government are paid, renders the latter a matter of very little difficulty; although every now and then severe examples are made of the delinquents, and upon the return of the emperor, it is said that many changes will take place, extending even to the minister of finance, who has hesitated to send the desired remittances to Verona, and wishes the expense of the army to be reduced.

Although the national debt of Russia amounts only to fifty million sterling (half of which is the paper money in circulation), the finances are certainly in a very bad state, as may be inferred from the rate of exchange (ten instead of forty), and the government is much distressed for money, everybody being kept in arrear. What resources does the country not possess, if the emperor had wise and able ministers about him, who knew how, and felt inclined to

bring them properly into action. Little can be said for native talent, foreigners being at the head of many of the principal offices of state, and of nearly all the establishments which require ability, and mainly contribute to the prosperity of a nation. We have, however, in private life, met with two natives, who do honour to the country, both from their own talents, and from the trouble and expense they are at to bring forward the talents of others wherever discovered. The first is Orloski, celebrated for the able productions of his pencil, and to whom the world is indebted for almost the only correct and faithful delineation of the costumes of Russia now extant. He has a very curious and extensive museum, but chiefly composed of exotic objects, which it would take up too much time to enumerate. I must, however, mention two Grecian shields of great antiquity and value, and the sword of Joseph II., of Germany, with the whole pedigree of the house from Cæsar, traced on the blade, and with a short account of each descendant. There is also a head of a child in the greatest possible agony, receiving the bite of a tarantula; it is cut out of a solid piece of wood, and the expression of anguish must be seen to be credited. Mr. Orloski is very civil and kind in shewing his museum to strangers. He is particularly patronised by the Grand Duke Constantine, in whose palace he has extensve apartments.

The other is Mr. Svignine, known in this country by an account of Moscow, which he hastily pub-

lished when that city excited so much interest in 1812; he has also published an interesting account of St. Petersburg and its environs, besides being concerned in a newspaper as an editor. He has an interesting and extensive museum, but he differs from Orloski, inasmuch as he rejects every thing which is not native.

There are some good paintings, and extraordinarily fine carved work by Russian peasants; and a bust of the emperor by a peasant which would not disgrace the chisel of a Praxiteles.

Mr. Svignine hearing that this man had a turn for drawing, desired a specimen of his talents, with which he was so much pleased, that he made him cast in clay, and chisel in marble, a bust of the emperor, which, when finished, he presented to the empress, and while she was admiring it, the emperor came in, and expressed his approbation of the sculptor, supposing he had been brought up at the academy of sciences. But when informed that he was only a slave, he wrote to the master to buy him; the master presented him to the emperor, who has sent him to Rome to study, under Thorwaldsen, as the first sculptor since the death of Canova.

There are also valuable collections of medals and coins; amongst the latter are the silver bar from which the first ruble was cut and derived its name, and a piece of money which Peter obliged every person who was not shaved, to pay at the barrier before entering Petersburg; thus endeavouring to extort

obedience to his wishes from their avarice, when every other means had failed.

We repaired to the observatory by appointment, in order to be conducted over it by the professor. He received us in his *robe de chambre*, with an apology for not being able to accompany us, as the German gazettes had just arrived, and he was obliged to attend to them immediately; it appearing that he is editor of a Russian gazette, and in order to give it priority of intelligence, foreign papers are always sent to him from the post-office, that he may cull from them before they are given to the public. I endeavoured to draw him into conversation, connected with his astronomical situation, and succeeded so far, that at length he said the papers could wait, and that he would have the pleasure of conducting us himself into the observatory, if we would stay till he shubed himself, and he soon returned with a light but warm one, it being lined with the skins of unborn Astracan lambs, the warmest and most expensive that are to be met with. We first of all passed through the printing-room, where we found a number of military invalids or valetudinary soldiers, employed striking off copies of the "*Ephemeris*," which he candidly acknowledged was copied from ours, as was also, he said, the French "*Connoissance des Temps*."

We found a good collection of instruments, nearly all made by English artists: he lamented that the climate and atmosphere of this city afforded but

few opportunities for making observations; "but," said he, "come up stairs and I will show you the finest telescope in the world, it is made by your countryman Dollond." We accordingly ascended, and found nothing but one of his common night-glasses: the professor appeared surprised, and a long altercation took place between him and the attendant, at the close of which he said, "I am sorry, but some alterations have rendered it necessary to remove it within these few days."

We remarked that a Russian gentleman who was with us was highly amused, and he afterwards told us, that so little did the professor attend to his office, or know what occurred in the observatory, that instead of the telescope having being removed within a short period, it had been missing upwards of two years. From this we could easily imagine him more attentive to his editorial than to his astronomical duties. But such deviations are by no means uncommon; and we were not surprised when he told us, that he had just been consulted by the Grand Duke Nicholas, as to the appointment of a successor to the professor at Abo, who had lately committed suicide, after losing his senses from drinking. This is the person who, we remarked on our visit to that observatory, had so shamefully neglected and exposed to the touch of the public the beautiful instruments which had been lately received from Munich. Expressing a wish to see the Gottorp globe, he said it was not worth the trouble; but we

being of a different opinion, he wished us a good morning, sending however a person to conduct us to it.

It is contained in a room built for the purpose, and measures about fourteen feet in diameter, the outer surface representing a terrestrial globe, and the inside a planetarium. It is entered by stairs, and within are seats round a table, and a globe in the centre representing the sun. Beneath the table is an endless screw, by means of which the globe is turned, and presents all the movements of the celestial bodies. It has been in its present situation since the year 1755. The room is in a very neglected state, and so little is curiosity excited, that it is by no means uncommon to meet with high and well-informed persons who have never seen it. From the top of the observatory the view of the city is remarkably fine, and from it was taken the panoramic view which was exhibited in London. We were glad to find that the professor was not indifferent to the exertions and ultimate success of my friend, our enterprising countryman, Captain Parry, of whom he spoke with much respect, as did also Commodore Kreuzenstern, whom we were introduced to at the last court ball. He is a remarkably modest man, and in his appearance reminded us of our immortal Nelson. But *their* Nelson whom we also met there, is Admiral Crown, an Englishman, of about five feet high, who, arriving at Cronstadt in Catharine's time, when they were under some

alarm from the Swedish fleet, was induced to quit the merchantman he brought out, and enter their service, in the command of a cutter, with which he soon took a Swedish brig, and in the brig captured a frigate, and, strange as it may appear, in the frigate he ultimately took, or at least caused to be taken, a line-of-battle ship near Sweaborg. Such unprecedented activity, gallantry, and success, of course procured him rapid promotion, and all the military orders he was eligible to, accompanied by a full share of envy and jealousy, which he has contrived to baffle if not frustrate, and is now considered their first *sea-going* admiral in the Baltic, and is consequently always called upon when service is required. He is an eccentric man, and many anecdotes are told of him. At sea the officers and seamen fancy he never sleeps, as the slightest irregularity is instantly noticed from the flag-ship. His bluntness and honesty are proverbial, and both often give offence. Just before our arrival, he had returned from a summer cruize with a squadron, and before they were dismantled, the emperor paid them a visit. He came off from Oranienbaum early in the morning before breakfast, when it was fully expected the admiral would have provided one. He however argued thus, "My pay is not sufficient for the purpose, if I give *fêtes* I must do it dishonestly." He therefore preferred giving the emperor a gentle hint, and running the risk of his displeasure which might arise from an empty stomach. Indeed, it is said

that he did feel it, for on board of the Leipsic the emperor accidentally found some breakfast, when it was remarked that many of the officers were commanded to be seated and to partake of it, while the gallant admiral was left unnoticed and standing. At the court ball he appeared literally covered with Orders.

The last ball was given in honour of the empress's birth-day by the dowager, and differed in nothing from the former, except that there were more ladies present, the supper was more elegant, and our table was served with gold instead of silver. The dowager, as usual, came round and spoke to everybody at the diplomatic table. In addressing me, she said she understood I wished to see the *Couvent des Demoiselles Nobles, &c.*, but that I must wait, as the directress was extremely unwell; she also asked if I preferred the style of the present supper to that of the last. We had at noon paid our respects to, and kissed the hands of both the empresses, and been introduced to the Grand Duchess Nicholas, and the Grand Duke Michael; the latter had just returned from a visit to his brother Constantine at Warsaw. The grand duchess is handsome and amiable; she conversed with us for some time, and when informed that I intended to visit the Crimea, she said she envied me the trip very much.

We were rather disappointed in not seeing Les Tableaux Vivans, which are sometimes exhibited on the occasion, in the following manner:—The most

delicate and beautiful girls amongst the *noblesse* are requested to assume particular characters, and to allow themselves to be placed in frames, and disposed of in St. George's hall, so as upon the entrance of the imperial family, to appear like paintings; this of course requires great constraint and force of attitude, therefore the moment the imperial family have admired them and passed by, they are set at liberty to enjoy the amusements of the evening.

The ball was said to be very thinly attended, and that many people who had been commanded to appear did not obey the summons, which, it was supposed, would call forth some mark of the emperor's displeasure on his return, should the circumstance come to his knowledge, as he is very particular that proper attention is paid to his wife. As this was the first time he had ever been known to fail in sending a courier with his felicitations and *cadeau* to the empress, from whatever part of Europe he happened to be in, a very general report was spread and believed, that he intended an agreeable surprise, by appearing suddenly in the ball-room. However, the evening passed off without either his presence or the arrival of a courier; and as he is not now expected for ten days, we mean to take advantage of the good state of the roads and the return of the peasantry to their sober senses after their Christmas gambols, in order to put our projected trip to Revel into execution. For this purpose we have got our

carriage well-mounted on a sledge, our *podorojne* prepared, and are to be off to-morrow.

On our return I shall probably be able to give you some account of winter travelling, as the distance is nearly four hundred versts, in the performance of which we shall have to travel during two nights.

On the 19th instant I received your letter in answer to mine of the 15th ultimo, so that the difficulty of correspondence is not very great at this season of the year.

It is said that letters are not held very sacred; indeed, they do not scruple to acknowledge that they keep back whatever they think improper to be known, even from ambassadors, if their courts are so weak as to trust to the post-office, what ought not to be out of the hands of a messenger. A curious story is told of a French despatch having been sent to the Swedish minister, and *vice versâ*, at a very critical moment, and also of our ambassador receiving an envelope from which some papers had been abstracted, while others were forwarded: upon his warmly expressing his indignation, they coolly replied it was true, but the contents were such as were not proper to come to his knowledge, at least through their post-office. This candour is certainly preferable to pretending to be honest, as it ought to put everybody on his guard.

If there is an unusual delay in the delivery of the letters, after the mail is known to be arrived,

it is common to hear the observation, " Oh it is a large one, they have a good many letters to read." However, I must do them the justice to say, I have never been able to discover that my letters have been opened, nor do I believe it has been attempted with any of them.

LETTER XIII.

Journey to Revel—View of Revel, and Description of the Town—Breakwater, or Artificial Harbour—Sudden Manumission of the Serfs—Its bad Effects—Hospitality of the Governor—Domestic Habits and Manners—Ball and Supper—Female Beauty—Madame Mara—The Senate House—Churches and Cathedral—Corps preserved in a Glass Case—Naval and Military Hospitals—Two Parhelions or mock Suns—Extreme Severity of the Weather—Persons frozen to Death—Terrific Snow Storm—Badness of the Roads—Imposition of Innkeepers—Return to St. Petersburg—Arrival of the Emperor—Institute of St. Catharine—Its Economy, Internal Arrangements, and Admirable Condition, Nature of the Studies, and Method of Instruction, La Salle de Physique, Embroidery Room, Manufacturing of Furniture—The Slobade of Ockta—Imperial Gunpowder Manufactory—The Foundling Hospital—System of the Establishment—The Galley Haven—Plate Glass and Porcelain Manufactories—Russian Method of Manufacturing Glass—Sir Thomas Lawrence's Portrait of the Emperor—Mr. Dawe, the English Artist—The Palace of the Military Staff—Topographical Office—Copy of a Private Letter from Joseph Buonaparte to the Emperor Napoleon—Interview with the Emperor Alexander—Rapid Elevation of a Court Favourite—A Military Colony—School of Artillery—Hospitals of the Imperial Guards—Popularity of the Grand Duke Michael—General Military Hospital—Sir James Wily—English Surgeons and Physicians—Extraordinary Surgical Operation—Improved Health of the Navy—Singular Case of Infanticide—Marriage Ceremony and Bridal Fête—Aggrandizement of Russia—Strength of the Russian Armies — Mode of Recruiting — Diminution of the Forces—The Imperial Guard, Mock Fights, Charge of Cavalry—La Chevalier Garde—La Garde à Cheval—Severity of Discipline—Mutiny of the Guard—Banishment to Siberia—Russian Administration—Commercial Impositions—Finances—Circulating Medium—Table of Exports and Imports—Condition of the Russian Labourers—Articles of Food—Russian Book Trade—Commodore Gôlownin and the Japanese—Mr. Holman, the Blind Traveller, and his Deaf Companion—Imperial Cabinet of Presents—The Lombard, or Pawning Establishment—The Loan Bank—Ordinary Appearance of the Royal Family in the Streets

—The Grand Dukes Michael and Constantine—Anecdote of the Grand Duke Constantine, his Divorce, and Exclusion from the Throne—Dwarfs.

St. Petersburg, 1½rd February, 1823.

ALTHOHGH the road proved very bad for want of snow, we reached Revel in forty-four hours, the distance being three hundred and sixty-three versts, over an uninteresting country, except at the falls of Narva, and in the district immediately about Waivava. Chudleigh, so celebrated as the residence of the Duchess of Kingston, is quite deserted, and her house is occupied by a common farmer.

The first view of Revel is very imposing, as it stands on a rising ground, the top crowned by the palace, which is surrounded by several churches with their towers and spires. The town was founded by the Danes, and became one of the Hanseatic league; the streets are narrow, and the houses a good deal in the style of those at Lubec. It formerly possessed a considerable trade, and latterly became a great dépôt for contraband goods, and flourished most amazingly, but emboldened by success, the inhabitants at length carried on the system so openly, that government was obliged to resort to strong measures, and in consequence of which every thing is now at a stand, and the town is nearly ruined.

Admiral T———, when minister of marine, thought it a proper station for men-of-war, indeed, far preferable to Cronstadt; and finding a clever Swedish engineer, he proposed to make an artificial harbour, something on the principle of our Break-

water at Plymouth. For this purpose he ordered to be built frames of logs, which were put together the same as the houses formerly described in Sweden, but well clamped with iron, and bolted: they had compartments of about six feet square, and were built on the ice, having a base of one hundred feet. The ice was then cut and the compartments were filled with stones, and the frames gradually sunk into their proper positions for forming a mole, capable of containing fifteen sail of the line, and having six fathoms water, with two entrances. The first part was sunk in 1814, and the work continued every winter till 1819, when the admiral having expatriated himself, and the engineer being dead, it was discontinued; and the works which were to constitute Revel a naval station are going to decay, presenting in every respect a most wretched appearance.

The city is the capital of Isthonia, which, as well as Livonia and Courland (forming, as they are called, the German provinces), are under the command of the Marquis of Paluccia, an Italian, who is said to be an able man, and to govern almost independently of the ministers at Petersburg. Whether this be true or not, the inhabitants enjoy many privileges unknown in Russia Proper; and with them, in 1815, the emperor began his amiable and liberal, but ill-digested and too hasty plan, of manumitting the serfs. This has since caused much ill blood between all parties, without producing, in the slightest degree, the expected good, the peasants having made an un-

grateful return by becoming more discontented, idle, and insolent. As a proof of this, on our journey both ways, we met an immense number of sledges, the drivers of which would not make the least room for us; and when spoken to were generally uncivil, which surprised us the more from the respect we had heretofore met with in the emperor's dominions. But at Chudleigh we were still more astonished by an officer in uniform coming into the post-house and complaining, that he had not only been grossly insulted by them, but that they had actually beaten his servant severely; and when we asked if he did not mean to apply for redress, he said it was of no use, as we could not consider ourselves in Russia. This conduct was certainly not to be justified in any respect, and it formed a strong contrast to what would have happened in the other governments of the empire, where it is considered a high crime to insult even a common soldier, because, as he wears the emperor's uniform, the insult is construed against the emperor himself. Immediately on entering Isthonia, we observed a remarkable difference in the appearance of the peasants. Instead of the hardy look of the Russian, with his bare neck and carefully cut hair, they became meagre and squalid, with nasty, long, lank hair, hanging down to their shoulders; indeed, the contrast was so great, that I dare say one of them in the Nevsky Perspective, would be as great a sight as a *vorshick* in Bond Street.

Our time passed pleasantly at Revel, as we met

with an extraordinary degree of civility from the governor and principal inhabitants. To give you an idea of the former I will relate our first interview with him. He received us *en robe de chambre*, with his hair *en papillote*, and immediately demanded what stay we purposed to make; and being informed that we remained only a couple of days, he directly said, "Well then, you must dine with me to-morrow, and so good morning to you, for as it is post day, I am very busy writing despatches."

He afterwards detained us one day longer, in order to our being present at the anniversary dinner of his assuming the government, when all the principal officers of the district were present. As an additional inducement for us to stop, he promised, upon our compliance, to furnish us with a courier's pass, by which we ultimately benefited much. Both dinners were extremely pleasant, and were served quite in the German style. We had at them an opportunity of witnessing a similar billing and cooing scene to that we had noticed in Norway, only as the duration of courtship is not to be so long, the toying was carried on with less restraint, and with considerably more ardour. The governor's daughter, a very nice young lady of about twenty, is engaged to be married to a colonel of chasseurs; they sat next to each other at dinner, during the whole of which they were reciprocally exchanging the most endearing marks of attention. Not being aware of the custom, and being placed opposite to them, I

felt extremely awkward, but, upon inquiry, I found that, after an engagement, six months are always required before the actual marriage, during which time the strength of the attachment or flame is judged of by the endearing proofs which are given in public; and it is said to be no uncommon thing for the lady to get up in a large company, walk across the room, kiss her intended, and return without a blush on her cheek.

We were at a grand ball and supper given by the Count and Countess of Bouxhaven, at which all the beauty and talent of the place were present. The ladies were always separated from the gentlemen, except when dancing, and at supper the married ladies occupied one table and the single ones another. The latter had generally fresh complexions and were pretty but too stout. The only dancing were waltzes, in which the naval officers took an active and graceful part; but the chief of that department was too eccentric a character to pass unnoticed. He is a little old man, with the rank of full admiral (equal to a field marshal and now never bestowed), which gives him much weight and consequence. His hair and beard are perfectly white, and both when too long are trimmed in the same way (that is, clipped with a pair of scissors), and his whole dress was in unison. However, I do not mean from this remark to draw any inference prejudicial to his character or manners; on the contrary, we received much civility from him, and had a very good dinner at

his house, where, upon being handed into the drawing-room, however much we may have been prepared from our knowledge of him to expect something eccentric in his better half, our astonishment at her appearance almost got the better of our politeness. Figure to yourself a fat, squat person, with almost as much beard as her husband, added to which, on various parts of her face were moles with hair longer than that on her head, which was cut short all round, and covered with a man's round hat: her address too was extremely *gauche*. Yet with such exteriors, they both possess excellent hearts, and have a beautiful and highly accomplished family, the young ladies playing and singing delightfully, and speaking several languages fluently, particularly English. The admiral has a very fine young man, an aide-de-camp, whom he had the goodness to send with us in the morning down to the mole; and while we were examining it the frost took hold of his ears, and was making considerable progress when we remarked it, and by the application of snow soon restored the circulation, but in the evening he was much quizzed by the young ladies for being more susceptible of cold than ourselves, who were comparatively from a southern climate. By a senseless regulation, officers, when in uniform, are not allowed to wear any covering over their ears or goloshes. Count Bouxhaven is a son of the celebrated marshal of that name, and possesses a singular alarm-watch, which his father always car-

ried with him. Instead of a striking, it had a small cannon attached to it, which exploded at the appointed time—not a bad idea for a veteran soldier. The present count is not a military man, but holds a nominal situation about court, in order to give him military rank, without which he would neither be able to buy or sell serfs, or even to transfer or dispose of his own property; therefore, every person in the empire, whatever may be his father's rank, unless he has military rank himself, is termed not inaptly a Nedorosle, *i. e.*, a person who has not done growing; and were he to live to the age of Methuselah he would still be a Nedorosle, and without privileges, unless he obtained military rank. This may account for the difficulty which the traveller, mentioned in a former letter, experienced from the police office, when applying for his *permis de séjour*, upon his refusing to give any other account of himself than that he was a gentleman, although pressed to assimilate it with some corresponding military rank. His obstinacy overcame them at the time, which he thought a great triumph, but which, however, was short-lived, for by mismanagement he lost his passage to England, and was obliged to winter here. On New-year's-day, when every *permis de séjour* is obliged to be renewed, the police did not forget their Nedorosle friend. Ours was renewed without the slightest trouble, with perfect civility, upon merely sending our servant to the office; but not so with him, he was obliged to attend himself

several times in order to undergo mortifying interrogatories, and finally, to prevent being put under restraint, he was obliged to obtain a certificate from either our ambassador or the consul-general, that he was not a vagabond. However, in justice to the police it must be said, that he brought it very much on himself, by his own unbending conduct in the first instance. We received much attention from Mr. Whittock, the agent for Lloyds: he is an extraordinary instance of a northern climate, or some other cause unknown, having worked a complete cure of rheumatism. For many years he was a perfect martyr to this complaint, even to the loss of the use of his limbs; some of his fingers are still crippled from its former effects, but since his residence at Revel, eleven years, he has never felt a rheumatic pain. He imputes it in some measure to his moderate living, which, to judge from the specimens he gave us of it, must be erroneous; he has his wife and daughter with him, and informs us, that for three hundred and fifty pounds a year he can live better than he did in England for eleven hundred pounds. Beautiful fowls cost only fourpence a-piece, and every thing is in proportion.

We had the pleasure of meeting at his house the celebrated Madame Mara, who, although at the age of seventy, and having naturally lost her vocal powers, is still a very agreeable, chatty companion, and by no means sunk in her own estimation, as the following anecdote, which she told us with

great glee, will sufficiently prove. She has a tolerably good property near Moscow, which a governor of a province thought would be a pretty and convenient addition to his own, and accordingly solicited Madame Mara's hand, as the sure way of securing it. She, however, saw through his interested motives, and refused his proposals. He persisted in pressing his suit, and amongst other inducements, desired her to recollect, that by marrying him, she would be entitled to be addressed as an excellency. "Oh," she replied, "is that all? There are many hundred Excellencies in Russia, but I would have you to know, there is only one Madame Mara in the world." Out of which world, by-the-by, she was very near making her exit, on New-year's-day, having been run over by the leaders of a gentleman's coach; however, she fortunately escaped with severe fright, and some slight contusions. She was born in Cassel, but married a Prussian.

The senate-house contains some curious records; and the names of the Isthonian nobility, who served in the late war, are inscribed on a marble tablet crowned with laurel. The senators are named by the emperor every three years.

There are several churches, and the spire of the cathedral, said to have been the highest in Europe, long served as a land-mark; but two years ago it was struck by lightning, and completely demolished. The cathedral contains a monument to Admiral

Greig, which is left in a disgracefully unfinished state. But the most extraordinary sight is in the church of St. Nicholas; I allude to the body of the Duc de Croz, who died in 1700, and was, either by Peter the Great or his creditors, refused burial; and without being embalmed, has ever since remained above ground, in the highest state of preservation. In 1818, he was put under a glass case, and presents all the appearance of a judge asleep, wearing a wig and velvet robes, the whole of which are as strong as if made yesterday, and appear, like the body, to be imperishable. He was born in Belgium, served Charles XII., and afterwards, at the siege of Narva, went over to Peter, who subsequently thought him a traitor, which is said to have been the cause of his non-interment. However, let the cause be what it may, his highly-preserved state, without the usual means being resorted to, is extremely curious. The church is likewise well worth observation, and both will amply repay a visit, as they did ours, although the day was bitterly cold, the thermometer standing at sixteen degrees below zero, and the severity of the frost increased by a good deal of wind. It contains a few good paintings, but one miserable daub very gravely represents Jacob riding in an old fashioned coach.

The environs are pretty and diversified. Catharinedalh, a palace built by Peter, and having good gardens, is much resorted to in summer.

They point out three bricks, which he is said to have placed with his own hands, as also two fine chestnut-trees, planted by him. The Duchess of Wirtemberg lived there last summer, and made the place very gay.

The naval and military hospitals are conspicuous buildings, and their internal arrangements do credit to the department; they each contained about three hundred patients, but are calculated for double the number.

The afternoon of the 4th it blew a strong easterly gale, and we were presented with two mock suns, or parhelions, sure indications of bad weather. However, we had ordered our carriage, and made our minds up for starting on the morrow, with four horses, instead of which they brought eight, saying there was so much drift snow, as to make them absolutely necessary. Indeed, the weather altogether was so bad, that we would gladly have found an excuse for remaining, but as nobody appeared to start a difficulty, we cased and seated ourselves in the carriage: but before clear of the town, we met with many obstacles, the wind blowing extremely hard, and driving the snow at such a rate, that it was nearly impossible to face it. We inquired of the postilions how they were to stand it, and find their way, in order to give them an opportunity of returning with a good grace; but to our astonishment they replied, they were used to it, and knew their way. Just at this time, we had the conso-

lation of seeing three frozen human bodies carried past us, with almost as little ceremony as the hogs from the frozen market.

After encountering large banks of drift snow which nearly upset us several times, we came near the steep hill. To ascend this the horses were put in a gallop, and did very well till half way up, when the storm was so fierce that they could not face it, and just at the time we came to a perfect barrier of snow, stretching right across the road, which completely arrested our progress: the postilions flogging their horses to make them draw, and the poor animals quite overcome, exerting themselves to get their heads to leeward and towards the town. In the struggle, the four leaders and postilions came down with their heads towards the carriage: we were now in imminent danger, for if they recovered their legs, and attempted to move, they must have upset the carriage, and, probably, have dragged it down the hill with violence, breaking it as well as our necks. Seeing the danger, I requested my brother to get out, and I followed as fast as I could. To ascend was impossible, and in attempting to turn, the pole broke. Nothing was left but to apply our shoulders to the wheels, and, fortunately, we succeeded in turning the carriage, when taking off the leaders and fishing, or repairing the pole, we were enabled to return towards the town, but not till our postilions were frost-bitten, and we ourselves had suffered dreadfully; for the moment we exposed ourselves, our

faces became one sheet of ice, with our eyes nearly closed, from the thickness of the icicles on the lashes. While in the midst of our dilemma, several sledges came down the hill before the wind and storm at such a rate, that they nearly ran over us, before they could perceive us.

When we came to the gate, the sentry would not allow us to enter, and made us pull up, although from its being very narrow, we blocked up the passage completely, to the annoyance of all who wished to pass, nor did we see any end to the interruption, as our passport was to leave and not enter the town. Fortunately, however, whilst we endeavoured in vain to convince him of the impropriety of his conduct, the frost came to our assistance, and caught him by the nose, when he instantly ran to shelter himself in his box, and rub it with snow, in order to restore circulation and prevent the baneful effects; of this we took instant advantage, and by applying the whip, were out of his reach, with a hearty laugh, before he could present his piece.

The following day but one proving rather finer, we again put ourselves *en route*, and after four days and nights travelling, we arrived at Petersburg. The badness of the roads in many parts was past belief; our servant was frequently thrown off the box. At some stations we found tolerably good accommodations, at others none; but at all we experienced an extraordinary attempt at extortion; for example, demanding six rubles for a cup of coffee; we gene-

rally gave half, but at one station, upon our refusing to pay the whole, they very coolly took the horses back to the stable, and we were obliged to accede to their terms. Mrs. Page had provided us with bread and minced meat, frozen in cases made of the birch-bark, so that whenever we stopped, we could have refreshments; the bread when heated through, eats very nicely. The weather remained dreadfully cold, the thermometer being at one time at twenty-seven degrees below zero, and we were at one place obliged to purchase additional thick stockings; at another, incautiously taking hold, and without my gloves, of the stone bottle containing our brandy, I felt the same sensation as if it had been red hot, and my fingers suffered for a considerable time. The greatest inconvenience we felt was from our breath freezing, and forming on the collars of our shubes a perfect mass of ice, and this always within a quarter of an hour from leaving the post-houses, when at the peach we had thawed and dried them. When we arrived here, everybody was surprised that we had escaped so well, as the weather had been considered unusually severe. At Wariel we met an officer of the imperial guard, who had been travelling all night in a common sledge, and was quite knocked up. We gave him a glass of Cognac, when, throwing himself down in a chair, he feelingly exclaimed, "What a fool I am to torment myself thus, merely to be able to write to comrades in how short a time I have performed the journey."

During our absence, the emperor returned with one of his cheeks frost-bitten. He travelled the latter part of the journey, accompanied only by Sir James Wiley, his physician, and arriving at a post-house immediately after the bite, it became necessary to provide a cover for his face, and not being able to procure any thing else, a pair of Sir James's pantaloons was sacrificed; and he and the emperor were employed for two hours during the night, in effecting the conversion. Apropos of frost-bites: I have very narrowly escaped, or indeed, cannot be said to have escaped altogether; for the skin is now peeling off my nose, as if from the effect of a burn. Fortunately, it is superficial, and, I trust, will not be attended with any permanent mark.

Although we had devoted much of our time before our departure for Revel, to the examination of the establishments and other objects of this city, there was yet much to be seen; and as in accordance with our original plan for arriving at Moscow for the carnival, there at most only remained fourteen days for our stay at Petersburg, we accordingly returned to the charge with redoubled ardour. I wrote to the Baron Albedyll, the private secretary of the dowager empress, to say our time was now limited, and to express a hope that her majesty would have the kindness to allow us the honour of visiting the establishments under her protection, and I promptly received the following note from the Baron.

"Monsieur—Je n'ai pas tardé de porter à la connoissance de l'Impèratrice Mère la lettre que vous m'avez fait l'honneur de m'adresser, et S. M. I. me charge de vous informer qu'elle n'a nullement oublie votre désir, et celui de M. votre frère de voir les établissemens qui se trouvent sous sa protection; mais que Madame La Supérieuse de l'Institut de Ste. Catherine etant malade, et à toute extremité, à maniere que l'on doit d'un jour à l'autre s'attendre à sa fin, il n'y a pas de possibilité d'admettre des visites dans cet établissment; que Madame la Supérieuse de la communauté des Demoiselless Nobles a de même èté très malade et se trouve encore foible.

"Comme cependant elle est déja beaucoup mieux et sera peut-être en état de sortir de ses appartemens, sa Majesté Imperiale vient de lui faire demander le jour quand elle pourra vous reçevoir et vous faire voir l'établissement.

"Aussitôt que ce jour sera fixé S. M. vous en fera instruire.

"Je m'empresse, M. de vous faire connoître ces dispositions gracieuses de Sa Majesté Imperiale, et vous prie d'être assuré des sentimens, *&c.*

"$\frac{2}{14}$*th Fevrier.*"

On the $\frac{5}{17}$th we received the following letter.

"M. Jones est averti de la part du Baron Albedyll, que Sa Majesté l'Impératrice Mère l'engage à satisfaire l'interêt qu'il a montré de voir le couvent sous la direction de son Excellence Madame le general

D'Adelberg en se faisant avertir chez elle Mercredi à 10 heures—Lundi 5 du courant."

We did not fail to obey the summons, and that you may better understand the scene, the whole shall be detailed just as it happened to us.

We were at Madame D'Adelberg's door or grand entrance precisely at ten, but were told we were expected at the other end of the establishment, where two officers in full uniform and highly decorated, were waiting to receive us. They first of all conducted us into an unfinished building, where they were fitting up a Salle à Manger and a steam kitchen. We then went to the hospital of the bourgeoises, which, as well as that of the nobles, was in excellent order, none of the patients appearing very unwell, and such is the general state of the health of the establishment, that out of the seven hundred persons there were only forty in the sick list, and many of these for very trifling complaints. From the hospital we proceeded through an establishment for three hundred widows, who are very comfortably lodged, though in open rooms or wards. In front is the real Smolnoy convent, built by the Empress Elizabeth, when she intended to abdicate and retire from the cares of government. It is now in a dilapidated state, and although the whole is known under this name, the inhabited part is all of recent addition.

We then came to the Classe Bourgeoise which

consists of two hundred, who are admitted at eight and remain till they are fourteen. Those in the first room could not even read, which is contrary to the rule of qualification for admission; but the humane heart of the dowager empress, had induced her to infringe it in favour of some particular cases. Two very genteel young women were instructing them, and we were given to understand, that they had been originally admitted under similar circumstances. The next room contained those more advanced, who were made to repeat their lessons, particularly in geography. Those in the third and last room of the bourgeoises, were nearly complete in time and education, and appeared considerably more than fourteen, though we were assured they did not exceed that age. Some of them delineated Great Britain most correctly with chalk on a diagram, whilst others gave a topographical description. I never saw more healthy looking children than the whole two hundred; but those in the second room were really fine and beautiful. Taking leave of them, we visited the blue or youngest class of nobles, but we could not remain, as the director said we had much to see before the dinner hour: some of them were very young. We then passed through the second or green class, in the same quick way; they appeared older, but the general character of both was dark, with black hair.

We then entered the apartments of Madame d'Adelberg, who received us very politely, apolo-

gizing for not being able, on account of her bad health, to accompany us over the establishment, but saying, she purposed having the pleasure of seeing us in the *Classe blanche.* She explained to us the manner of admission, education, *&c.*

Every three years a certain number go out; the period for the nobles remaining is divided into three terms, of three years' each, that is, a term in each class (or as blue, green, and white), and the branches of education are divided accordingly.

Rewards are bestowed on such as distinguish themselves by proficiency or conduct. These are either honorary, as a medal, a riband, or the empress's cipher, the latter sometimes richly set in diamonds, which is a proud distinction, and allowed to be worn even when married; or pecuniary, as a pension of from one to three hundred rubles for life. The discharge, by a wise regulation, always takes place at the beginning of Lent, which allows them time to reflect before they are launched into a vortex of gaiety, or probably in their joy and exultation at being free from school restraint, they would wildly run into dissipation. The attention of the dowager to their morals, conduct, and comfort, is said to be quite that of a mother, as she devotes many days in each month to the closest inspection, and never allows a week to pass without a visit. A few months before the discharge, notice is given of the number of vacancies about to occur, and that applications will be received at the proper

office. Of course there are more applications than vacancies; therefore, upon examination, the names of all applicants that are found eligible are mixed and drawn by lot, and that there may not be any intrigue, the public are admitted, and two of the youngest children chosen to draw the names. This, of course, is only with reference to the vacancies that occur on the foundation, which extends to only three hundred, the rest being supported either at the expense of their parents, or at that of some of the imperial family, by way of kindness or charity to old friends or courtiers. The annual expense of the establishment is a million and a half of rubles —eleven hundred clears every demand for those whose parents pay for them. There is hardly a noble family in Russia, whose circumstances are not above mediocrity, that has not a daughter educated either at this or the St. Catharine institution, in consequence of the trouble and pains the dowager takes to find out how the females are disposed of, and because, if she learns that the education of any of them is neglected, a hint is given to the father, which he does not find it prudent to neglect. Since the foundation, in 1796, two thousand have been educated here, and sent into society, and have produced an extraordinary change in manners, by diffusing a taste for the more liberal and polite pursuits of life: for as the fair sex will ever have a powerful influence upon the other, so must their improvement act in a double or triple

ratio, for man will never allow himself to appear inferior to woman, and therefore, in the struggle for superiority, emulation will cause both to soar beyond their originally contemplated flight. The effect is already sensibly felt, for Madame told us, that formerly young ladies came from the more remote provinces without the first rudiments of education; but that now, on their arrival, they are generally as forward as the pupils there were after having gone through the blue class. This, of course, tends very much to their own happiness on entering, as well as to render the system easier and pleasanter to everybody connected with the establishment, the difficulty being to make the first impression, for when once the young idea begins to shoot, it will feel delight at each succeeding conception. The burgher order is never allowed to mix or associate with the nobles, yet it is apprehended by many that their future happiness is imbittered by the education they receive, as it raises their ideas so far above their relative situation in life, that upon returning to their friends they are quite unfitted for their society, and are too young to marry with the better classes, who might probably be glad to have such well-educated females admitted amongst them. However, many are received into families as governesses, but, from their extreme youth, are unable to obtain terms which are adequate to their support when they grow up.

On quitting the apartments of Madame le Gene-

ral, we entered the *classe supérieuse*, or *Blanche*, where we found several professors ready to commence their different examinations. Literature and history were entered upon, and we were highly amused to hear girls of sixteen and seventeen discussing, with perfect confidence, the beauties and defects of the most celebrated authors of every age and country. Mathematics were gone into very deeply by a young and good-looking Russian professor, the only native professor amongst them, and the only one that deserved to be called even good-looking; the others having marked and forbidden countenances, and conducting their examinations with a harshness of manner, which we thought little appropriate to their innocent, young, and delicate pupils; but perhaps it is policy not to admit men of too soft or insinuating an address. In the midst of the mathematical problems, Madame d'Adelberg joined us, and we were served with chocolate and cakes. When they came to Geography, the British Islands were designated upon a large scale, with the utmost precision, by two of the pupils. Others were then indiscriminately called forth, and entered most fully into the history, productions, commerce, wealth, and government of Great Britain, with a facility that excited our admiration; but this was worked to the highest pitch of enthusiasm when we came to the musical class, where was sung and played in full chorus, a hymn which had been composed last year, upon the occasion of

celebrating the twenty-fifth anniversary of the foundation of the establishment, at which the dowager empress was present, and distributed rewards to the most deserving of each class, and to all the persons who had constantly served since that period.

We then proceeded, accompanied by Madame, through the dormitories, where we found every thing plain, but clean and neat; after which, we approached a pair of folding doors: they were suddenly thrown open, and displayed to our view one of the most interesting and imposing *coups-d'œil* it is possible to imagine. The whole seven hundred young ladies, assembled in a large hall, according to their classes, were arranged with great regularity, and yet apparently in groups, the *bourgeoises* occupying the lower end, and separated from the others. When we entered, the whole simultaneously made a respectful courtesy, but as we passed up the lines, all restraint was thrown off, in order to show their delight in again finding Madame d'Adelberg amongst them, it being her first appearance for a length of time (on account of her severe indisposition). They hung round her with fervour, warmly kissing her hands, whilst she, by kind words and smiles, appeared to infuse pleasure into their innocent hearts: the scene was truly gratifying and affecting.

On leaving them we visited *la Salle de Physique*, which we found well stocked with the necessary instruments and materials of the healing art. This led to the room where they embroider, and we were

shown much beautiful work in progress, as well as completely finished. They make a great deal of furniture for the imperial palaces, such as covers for sofas, chairs, *&c.*; their drawings also serve to ornament them. Of the latter we saw some highly executed pieces in the chapel of the establishment, where the priest on duty was in attendance, and showed us two beautifully turned ivory cups, richly set in brilliants, the work of the dowager empress's own hands.

Madame d'Adelberg here took leave of us, when we expressed how much we felt obliged by her attention, and gratified by all we had seen, begging she would express to the empress, at her next visit, our high sense of the honour she had done us in permitting this inspection.

On entering the dining-hall, we found all the nobles assembled, standing at their different tables, waiting for us. They immediately struck up the Hymn of Grace; their numerous and fine voices producing a magic and divine effect, heightened and welcomed, from the knowledge that it proceeded from health, youth, beauty, and pure innocence. As soon as thanksgiving was over, they sat down and did ample justice to the dinner (which was neatly served), for we had unconsciously detained them nearly two hours beyond the usual time. We tasted several dishes, all composed of fish, for being Friday it was a *jour maigre.* On the other days they have flesh and proper nutriment, every thing

being of the best quality. They are never allowed to visit *en ville*, but may see their friends and relations in the convent at stated times. The establishment is surrounded by a high wall, within which is a considerable space for garden and recreation-ground, during summer; at the present season they cannot venture out, but there are large halls in which they amuse themselves. Having seen every department, we were conducted by the officers to our carriage, and took our leave, most highly delighted with all we had seen.

Immediately opposite the conventis the Slobode of Ochta, where there is a small building-yard for frigates, and at a short distance from it is the imperial gun-powder manufactory bearing its name. It was established by Peter, and some of the machinery has been in use ever since. We were astonished to find a great deal of iron connected with the works for the powder in its perfect state, but they declared there had never been an accident, and from thence they inferred that there never would be one. The powder is not held in very high estimation, but they showed us some more highly and beautifully glazed than any we had ever seen, each grain appearing like polished small shot. The way they try the strength of powder is simple: a small brass mortar or tube, holding about an ounce, is filled, and a certain weight is fired from it perpendicularly in the air, near a pole, which is regularly graduated, the state of the atmosphere

being carefully noted at the time of the experiment.

The dowager empress's permission extending to all her establishments, we repaired to the Foundling Hospital, a large and good building, where every child presented is received without any other questions being asked, than if it has been baptized, what name it bears, or what name its friends desire it to bear. If not baptized, it is immediately carried into a chapel, where a priest is in attendance night and day, and the ceremony is performed, after which, in the receiving-room, it is stripped of its own clothes (generally rags), washed, clothed, and ticketed, according to the hospital regulations, and handed over to a particular nurse and ward. In a few days it is vaccinated, and when recovered, is sent into the country to be reared, having a board attached to it, on which is painted every particular which may hereafter be necessary, in order to identify it. Several were brought in while we were in the receiving-room, some very young, perhaps not a day old. It was curious to see the *nonchalance* with which the dressers laid them on a table, stripped, washed, dressed, and handed them over to the nurses. It was not unlike a baker with so much dough, or a loaf of bread, put under flannel. We also saw several that had been lately vaccinated; their arms were a good deal inflamed. All the wards were very dry, clean, and neat; each child has a separate nurse. In general the nurses were very ill-looking,

and many of them had bad eyes. But the children that had returned from the country, of whom we saw a good number from three to five years old, were healthy, good-looking, and neatly clothed. After that age they are soon disposed of in the different imperial establishments, where they are obliged to serve at least twenty-five years. One hundred and fifty boys, and the same number of girls, are, however, retained at the hospital, and receive a finished education, learning four languages, Russ, Latin, French, and German, besides drawing, dancing, music, *&c. &c.* We were much struck with the difference in the appearance of the two sexes; the females being all good-looking and healthy, many of them very pretty and interesting, while the males were absolutely the most ill-looking we had ever seen: however, to the credit of the establishment be it said, they were equally healthy. Many of them are bringing up as medical men. A school for midwifery is well filled, and likely to prove extremely beneficial to the country: before receiving a diploma, allowing them to practice, they undergo a very strict examination.

One part of the establishment deserves particular notice, from the conflicting opinions which are held upon it, some condemning it as most immoral, and as lending its aid to encourage licentiousness, whilst others hold it to be most beneficial, humane, and as tending to prevent further crime. It

consists of certain private apartments where women are received, brought to bed, taken care of, and again leave it, without any person having the smallest right to ask one single question as to their names, state of life, or reasons for coming into it. One bad thing arises from it; I believe many an innocent character is traduced and reported to have taken advantage of the establishment, merely from suspicion or malignity. The number of children received in the first thirty days of this year, amounts to three hundred and sixty, and the annual admissions average three thousand five hundred. On the books of the establishment, there are at this moment ten thousand that are not yet independent of the hospital. The whole expense for the different branches throughout the empire is one million and a half of rubles, which sum is derived from endowments by Catharine, donations by individuals, the lombard or *mont de piété*, and the monopoly of cards. The revenue which the latter produces is very considerable, having been last year no less than five hundred thousand rubles.

In consequence of some mistake, we could not see the asylum for the deaf and dumb, which occupies one wing of the foundling hospital. We, however, saw the poor creatures walking happily and contentedly in one of the three large gardens attached to the hospital, for the benefit of the inmates. In consequence of various improvements, and the increase of attention since the establishment has

been under the protection of the dowager empress, the number of deaths amongst the children is astonishingly decreased, and at least one half more are now brought into the world as useful members of society.

The Mine Corps or College is an establishment for the education of three hundred and twenty state scholars, in order to their being employed as officers at the different establishments in Siberia, where they are expected to take a lead; but I do not understand that it has turned out any very clever people. The model-room contains some very curious models, and much information may be gained from a careful examination of them. We were shown one of a lake, the water of which is constantly depositing a matter of very nearly native iron. The museum, as may readily be supposed, is extremely rich in mineralogical specimens; the most extraordinary is a solid block of malichite, weighing ninety-seven pouds, or three thousand four hundred and ninety-two pounds: to the honour of our countrymen be it said, the collection has been almost entirely made by an Englishman. A trunk of a tree is shown with the bones of a hog directly in its heart, and the root of another enveloping a large stone.

Much curiosity is excited by an excavation in the rear of the building, intended to be an exact representation of an iron mine in full work; but I must confess, after what I saw in Sweden, it appears to me to be unworthy of its fame, and hardly fit to

assist the youngest scholars in their study of the art of mining.

The Galley Haven occupies the north-west point of the shores of the Neva, and is conspicuous from two towers in which Peter is said to have often amused himself, and to have contemplated the future naval superiority of Russia in the Baltic. It communicates with the gulf by a canal, but now contains only the yachts, about forty gun-boats under cover, and a curious floating battery of nine guns. The yachts are not very well fitted, and are encumbered with guns.

The plate-glass and porcelain manufactories are at two versts on the Schlusselburg road. The former is said to cast the largest mirrors in the world, having carried them to the size of one hundred and sixty-eight inches by eighty-four; but they become enormously expensive, as when near that size they often crack in manufacturing. We fortunately arrived in time to see one of ten feet by five cast, and a similar one quicksilvered. The plate of copper on which the glass is cast, is said to have cost twenty thousand rubles; the breadth and thickness are regulated by rods laid lengthwise, on which a heavy roller traverses and presses out the liquid, when poured on the plate from the crucible. One roll is sufficient when the plate is formed (neither side very smooth), and put into an oven for two days, after which, it is scoured, polished, cut to the proper dimensions, and sent to the quicksilvering room, where it is well rubbed

with cloth ; a quantity of quicksilver is poured and spread on silver paper, over which the glass is gradually and cautiously forced. When the whole surface is covered perfectly, that is, without air-bubbles or other defects, heavy weights are placed on the top, in which state it remains four days, when the glass becomes perfect, and fit for immediate use. Every other kind as well as plate-glass, is made at the establishment, and we saw some beautiful, cut specimens, particularly of tripods and vases, for the Ylagin palace, which are supposed to be *chefs-d'œuvre* of the art. Unfortunately, however, the glass has a green sort of tinge, which they cannot correct. The porcelain is reckoned very good; the painting is done by boys from the foundling hospital. In the two establishments, there are upwards of one thousand persons employed, all of whom appeared neat, clean, and contented. Like most of the government manufactories, they are a considerable expense to the country, not by any means making an adequate return, and this must ever be the case where competition does not exist, or at least the returns will fall far short of what they might be made. Much has lately been said of a portrait of the emperor, painted for his mother, by Sir Thomas Lawrence. It is now exhibiting in the Hermitage, in the same room with the celebrated one by Girard, which, in the opinion of the Russians, has a most decided superiority. It has a great advantage in point of dress, the emperor being in full uniform, and of course

well set off, whereas he chose to be drawn by Sir Thomas in an undress, which gives him and the whole picture a heavy appearance. I fear, however, it must be confessed, that our countryman has been negligent in the finishing; indeed, it is said, that the head shows evident signs of the master, while the drapery and ground-work equally betray the hand of a pupil; in short, that the face looks like a beautiful full moon, bursting out of clouds. I am sorry if his carelessness have given the Russians any reason for rendering the palm of excellence to Girard, particularly as such a preference has been shown to an English artist, Mr. Dawe, as to cause him to be employed to paint for the emperor, a gallery of all the generals who distinguished themselves during the last war, and in which, with respect to likenesses, he is succeeding admirably. Indeed, they all appear as if starting from the canvass, and we knew some of the generals afterwards in the street from their portraits; but I fear the colours are not well laid on. Mr. Dawe receives one thousand rubles *per tête*, and is certainly a great man, for generals and chiefs are ordered to attend at such an hour and in such a dress, and wait his pleasure. It is even said that he does not always treat them with too much suavity, and he is further reported to have rather injured himself the other day by his unreasonable demands. Amongst other allowances, he stipulated for a table to be kept for him, which in Russia means only a dinner,

but himself and family had always been provided with a breakfast in addition. The steward of the household got him to paint his daughter, as he supposed, by way of friendship, but when finished, he sent in his bill for one thousand rubles; this so enraged the steward, that he struck off the breakfasts, to the great inconvenience and annoyance of the artist.

I have before alluded to the palace of the staff in front of the winter palace, the interior arrangement of which even surpasses what might be expected from its outward appearance. The staff has weight in all military countries, but here its power is quite extraordinary. The chief is all-supreme, and to every army he attaches an officer who is to correspond with him confidentially, and independently of the commander-in-chief; and in case of the death of the latter, he is to succeed to the command of the army, till another is appointed, although there may be many senior or superior officers present. The palace possesses a very good military library for the use of the officers. Before the French invasion, few of the aides-de-camp had watches, which accounted in some measure for the irregularity of Russian movements. By a recent regulation, they are not only obliged to provide themselves with watches, but to set them every day by the general's, when the daily orders are issued. The topographical office is well worth seeing. Officers of every rank may be found examining or constructing maps, plans, *&c.*; that of St. Petersburg and

the environs to forty versts, is perhaps the most minutely traced map of the kind in existence; not a house, tree, gate, or wall, but what is correctly marked. The military surveys of the empire may be bought in a whole set (as far as complete), or that of each government may be had separately: they are all extremely well executed. We were shown all the sheets of Mudge's survey of England, as far as they have yet been given to the public; printing and lithography are here carried on extensively in all their branches. The palace is crowned by a very good observatory, containing excellent instruments, and the best observations in the empire are said to be made at it.

In one wing they are building an incombustible room for the archives; but, odd to say, the frame at the end window is of wood, covered with lead. The arch from the palace to the street is one of the most curious things in Petersburg, its shape being indefinable.

The whole is lighted by gas, and the grand hall has the gas issuing from the wings and talons of fine bronze eagles, which produces a brilliant and imposing effect. We were fortunate enough to visit it when illuminated for the inspection of General Sacken, and the Prince of Wirtemberg.

An American, who was here in the summer, had been intrusted with a letter for Buonaparte, from his brother Joseph; not having been able to deliver it, he amused himself and friends by reading

it, and allowing it to be copied. As there is no doubt of its being genuine, and as it throws considerable light upon the situation and feelings of this extraordinary family, I think you will be pleased with the perusal; I have adhered literally to the original as to orthography, *&c.*

Philadelphia, 25 Janvier, 1818.

Mon cher frère,

" Je profite de l'occasion de M. ——— qui alant aux indes a l'espoir de vous voir à son passage pour me rappeller à votre souvenir, et vous donner les nouvelles que J'ai des personnes qui vous interessent le plus.

" Ce Monsieur ——— tient à une des plus respectables familles de ce pays, et merite par lui même, toute confiance. C'est une personne dont l'attachment à tout ce qui vous appartient est fort connu; il y en a beaucoup dans cet heureux pays, qui partagent ses sentimens, et vous pouvez avoir confiance dans tout ce qu'il vous dira à ce sujet; l'injustice de vos ennemis à votre égard leurs a oté les partisans qu'ils avoient autrefois ici et il n'y a aujourdhui qu'un veu et qu'un désir pour votre bonheur et pour la cessation des persecutions dont vous étes devenu l'objet et qui deshonorent à jamais le gouvernement odieux qui croit devoir se conduire ainsi.

" Les dernières lettres de Maman étoient du mois d'8$^{bre.}$ elle se portoit bien et est toujours inconsolable de votre éloignment. Pauline est à Rome

elle s'est arrangée avec son Mari—le Cardinal ne jouit pas d'une bonne santé, louis voyage en italie et se porte mieux. Son fils ainé est a Munich l'on m'assure qu'il epouse une fille de Eugine. Un jeune officier de Parme arrivé ici denièrement m'assure d'avoir vu l'Imperatrice avant son depart pour ce pays elle lui avoit temogné le regret de ne pouvoir le conserver dans le regiment qui porte son nom on en chasse tous les officiers qui ont servi sous votre règne. Elle l'avoit chargé de me dire que son fils se portoit bien qu'elle avoit inutillement fait toutes les demarches possible pour l'avoir auprès d'elle. Elle a chargé ce jeune officier a me dire que ses sentimens pour vous étoient les mêmes qu'elle ne pouvoit pas en écrire étant assuré que ses lettres lui seroient enlevées, avant son embarquement elle etoit fort survellée et se portoit mediocrement. Eliza m'ecrit en date du mois d'8$^{bre.}$ qu'elle alloit à Bologne où elle esperoit de voir l'Imperatrice Marie louise qui étoit allors à florence Eliza est établie à trieste où elle a acheté une terre au bord de la mer elle a de quoi vivre le Duc de Padoue est avec elle il a perdu sa femme morte d'une fièvre maligne à trieste au commencement d'8$^{bre.}$ le duc et la duchesse de Bassano sont aussi à trieste jerome est avec sa femme et son fils dans une terre près de Vienne Caroline et les enfans y sont aussi l'un et l'autre ont aussi acheté des terres dans les états Autrichiens louis n'a pas obtenu le passeport pour venir ici avec sa famille il éspère toujours de l'ob-

tenir plus tard. Ma femme et mes enfans sont toujours à francfort sur le main sa santé l'empeché jusqu'ici de me réjoindre elle espère pouvoir le faire au printemps prochain. beaucoup de français italiens se sont refugiés dans ce pays. Je ne peux pas les secourir comme je voudrois parceque j'ai eprouvé beaucoup de pertes les douze millions qui ont été volés par les bourbons à Paris, ont mis tous ceux qui devoient en espère quelque resource dans la gêne ce qui avoit été confie à l'ami dont Je vous avois repondu a egallement été perdu il a dû soutenir un procès qu'il a perdu par le plus étrange des injustices ce qui l'a entrainé dans les frais considerables.

" deux de vos domestiques un chef de l'argenterie et un piqueur sont arrivés ici il y a quelques mois et m'ont apportè une lettre du general Bertrand. Je leur ai fait payer ce qui leur étoit dû. Ce pays est bon et le peuple excellent. Je ne m'étends pas davantage sur ce sujet pour ne pas augmenter vos regrets de ce vous n'y etes pas arrivé comme moi.

" La conduite des allies paroit partout être la même tout pour eux contre les peuples aussi ceux-ci sont ils partout parfaits pour vous. Je desire bien que vous puissiez me donner de nouvelles de votre santé et de votre situation vous pouvez confier vos lettres au porteur et en général tout Americain qui arrivent où vous êtes l'opinion de leur nation est telle qu'il est bien difficile de rencontre un individu d'une opinion divergeante. Je vous prie de

ne pas ducter de l'inalterable et tendre amitie de votre frère et ami joseph."

Soon after our return from Revel, Sir Charles Bagot had the goodness to represent to the minister of foreign affairs, that we were anxious to have the honour of paying our respects to the emperor, and that we now only remained for that purpose, as we wished to reach Moscow for the carnival. Although the emperor had not seen many of his own, and none of the foreign ministers, he had the goodness to appoint the next day for receiving us, as was communicated to Sir Charles by the following note.

"Le Secrétaire d'état, Comte Nesselrode, ayant pris les ordres de S. M. I. l'Empereur, a l'honneur de prévenir Son Excellence, Monsieur Le Chevalier Bagot, Ambassadeur Extraordinaire, et Plénipotentiaire de S. M. B., que S. M. I. a fixé la journée de demain, dimanche le 4 Février, à l'heure de midi, pour la présentation de MM. G. M. Jones, Capitaine de Vaisseau, H. Jones Capitaine de Génie, et Lord Dunglass, attaché à l'Ambassade de S. M. B. Le Comte Nesselrode s'empresse en conséquence de prier S. E. de vouloir bien inviter ces MM. à se rendre demain à l'heure indiquée, à la cour au Palais d'Hyver, où ils seront attendus pour être présenté, après la Messe, à S. M. I., L'E. Le Comte Nesselrode saisit cette occasion de renouveller à M. L. A. l'assurance de sa haute considération.

"*St. Petersburg, le* 3 *Février*, 1823."

We accordingly repaired to the palace at the appointed hour, and were received by M. de Kologrevof and the Prince Volkonsky, who after a time marshaled us in the presence-chamber, when the emperor immediately made his appearance *brusquement* in a general's undress uniform, with tight pantaloons and military boots, and bearing a good many medals and the insignia of the order of the sword, but no stars. He is a full-faced, fresh-coloured, good-looking man, with light hair, rather bald, but large whiskers: he is about five feet nine inches high.

He addressed me very kindly in French, and then said in English, "I speak a little English, but I am afraid." I immediately replied, that his majesty spoke it so well, that I should feel honoured by his continuing to address me in English, which he did, and asked how I came to St. Petersburg? What station or campaign I served last? If I was pleased with the country, and where I intended to go? He finished by saying, he hoped I should continue to be pleased, and not meet with any difficulties in his dominions. After holding a similar conversation with the other two, he retired, saying, he was happy to have seen us. I afterwards found, that for the last two or three years he had not before been known to hold a conversation with anybody in English, in consequence of having made a mistake in calling Naples, Naple, when speaking to a foreign lady, who, professing not to understand what

he meant, at length, when he endeavoured to explain, exclaimed, "Oh, I suppose you mean Naples, don't you?" This so annoyed the emperor, that he discontinued English conversations, of which before he was very fond, and I must say his pronunciation is extremely good. He is very partial to the English character; has sometimes drunk tea with one or two of the English merchants, and never fails to stop and converse with Mr. Anderson, the oldest English inhabitant, when he meets him in the street.

We found Arachief in the waiting-room. I knew him immediately, as he is the only person in the empire whom the emperor has decorated with his miniature, which supersedes all Orders: it is said, that it was sent richly set in diamonds, the whole of which he begged to return, saying, the miniature itself was so valuable as not to require ornaments. I got into free conversation with him, and talking about the road to Moscow, I begged he would do me the honour to allow me to visit his military colony near Novgorod, the first which was established in the empire. The moment I made the request, he addressed M. de Kologrevof, in Russ, and the Prince Volkonsky speaking to me at the moment, I had no opportunity to renew the subject; but after the audience M. de Kologrevof stated, that Arachief desired him to say, that as the colony was off the high road, he could not give anybody leave to visit it without the emperor's express permission,

which, no doubt, upon asking, would be obtained. This I did not do, and so the matter ended; but upon mentioning the circumstance afterwards, I was informed, that during the last two years, there had been a mystery about the military colonies, which did not before exist; on the contrary, the emperor was fond of talking about them, and Arachief of wishing that people should visit them, but that now they are never mentioned, and visits are prohibited.

The rise of this man has been most rapid and extraordinary. He was a good drill serjeant of artillery, at the time Catharine kept Paul in subjection, and when his only power or amusement was with a battalion, which she placed at his disposal, and to which Arachief was appointed adjutant. He soon won the good opinion of Paul, who appointed him his general of artillery, that is to say, over all his mother then allowed him to possess, *i. e.* two guns; but when he succeeded to the throne, he advanced his favourite in the imperial artillery service, giving him also an estate with two thousand five hundred serfs: at the untimely death of his kind master, he expressed the most poignant grief, and erected a column to his memory. Alexander heard of and admired his fidelity, but did not bring him publicly forward till the French invasion, when he distinguished himself very much; he afterwards remained quietly on his estate, and soon got a contract for part of the Moscow road, by which he

enriched himself and his peasants. He then turned his attention to making all his serfs work on a military system, and they, either indifferent to it, or afraid to resist, soon fell into his plans, and a regular military establishment sprung up, and attracted public notice, from the order, comfort, and affluence, which were said to reign at it. At length the emperor determined to visit it, and Arachief said, "I beg your majesty to arrive without giving notice, and to inspect it unaccompanied by me, that you may judge of its state, and how much the community at large is benefited by the military system which I have introduced, and which, I feel assured, is capable of improving the empire, if patronised by your majesty." The emperor would not consent to this; but the day of his arrival, Arachief purposely went in his boat to a wrong part of the river, to wait for him, and the emperor was obliged to cross over in a small boat, which he accidentally found there, and did inspect the colony without the presence of its founder. He was much struck at the superior comfort, happiness, and cleanliness which appeared to reign, although the whole is said to have been a delusion, the appearance being the result of the most arbitrary and unjustifiable measures. In the meantime, Arachief returned, and finding the emperor had crossed the Volgarof in the small boat, he had it carried up on men's shoulders, placed under a triumphal arch, and declared it should ever after be held sacred, as having been the means of his majesty's unbiassed visit. When the emperor next

passed, he found an inscription to the purport placed over it in gold letters: so that pleased with all he saw, and really deceived as to the merits of the system, he placed unlimited confidence in the projector, and gave him orders and authority to commence and continue the same scheme on nearly all the crown lands, by which it was proposed to recruit the army, and change the whole military system of the empire. But as I hope to visit some of the colonies during my journey south, I will not, at present, enter more fully on this interesting subject.

The day after our introduction to the emperor, the Grand Duke Michael gave us permission to see his artillery school, or cadet corps; he is at the head of the artillery, having been, at his birth, created by his father "Grand Maitre de l'Artillerie." On our arrival, we were most unexpectedly received by the duke in person, who took us over every part himself, expressing his regret that as it was a holyday, little was doing; but assuring us, nothing was particularly prepared in consequence of our visit, and desiring as a favour that we would drop in whenever it might be convenient to us, giving at the same time a general order for our admission. The few scholars left upon duty appeared fine, intelligent youths; they are admitted at fourteen, and when they have gone through the course of instruction, they receive commissions. The number is limited to one hundred and sixty: we noticed a cossack and a Greek amongst them; the duke

treated them all with kindness. There appears to be a laudable rivalry between him and his brother, with respect to their two corps and schools.

The duke afterwards condescended to accompany us to all the hospitals of the imperial guards, when his conduct was most pleasing. The moment he entered, a general burst of "you are welcome," broke from the patients, to all of whom he had something kind to say, while patting them on the shoulder, he explained to me where they had distinguished themselves, *&c.*

The whole were in the most perfect order, and impossible to be exceeded in neatness or comfort in any country. In proof that our visit was unexpected, and that nothing was prepared for our reception, we entered the hospital of the Semenovskoi regiment, without even the guard being turned out for the grand duke, and we were in the wards before any of the medical attendants. At last, the officer of the guard came like a culprit; the duke gave him a deuce of a wigging, and put him under an arrest, but turned round to me, and smiling, said, it was only to frighten him. As I have before remarked, there are look-out men at the corner of every street, in order to prevent the guards being taken by surprise, some of which we had passed, but in consequence of the duke being wrapped up, and followed by our party, in, I believe, four sledges, they did not know him. He finally took us into the *chancellerie* of the regiment, where all the records from the period of its formation are kept; amongst

other documents, he shewed an autograph letter from Peter the Great, addressed generally to the regiment, informing them of the birth of his son, the unfortunate Alexj Petrovitch, in 1690, and that he presented him to them as a comrade. It is written with all the fond delight and affection of a father, and proves how much he must have felt at his unworthy conduct, before he could bring himself to adopt those harsh measures towards him, which, there is too much reason to suppose, hastened, if not caused, his premature death, and imbittered the last years of Peter's life. During the whole of these visits, the duke conversed with us all in the most unaffected manner, and had me generally hold by the arm.

The general military hospital we found rather crowded, having two thousand one hundred and twenty-two patients within it. The wards were at a high temperature, but still very clean; the complaints were chiefly colds, consumptions, a species of ophthalmia, and venereal. We were surprised to find lads of fourteen and fifteen with the latter complaint; and although nobles, as they had not attained the rank of officers, they were in a common ward, and looked miserable enough. The officers are three in a room; we saw thirty-two of them, one being a priest.

The oculist, M. Ranse, is a remarkably clever man, and has successfully performed several operations for cataracts, even after ten years' deprivation of sight. Attached to the hospital are a

medical academy and museum. The latter is extremely valuable, and worthy of attention, as it contains, amongst other collections, a series of *fœtus* and *uteri*, from one week to five months old, arranged by our countryman Cruikshanks, and a microscopic series of anatomical preparations of the human body, where the finest membranes, *&c.*, are illustrated by a Prussian: and they boast, that a mummy is that of the body of the beautiful Cleopatra. The academy has been founded by Sir James Wiley, who is the president; and it is to his able and fostering hand that the military hospitals of Russia are indebted for the high state of perfection to which they have attained. Sir James had the goodness to accompany us on our visits to them. His personal history is singular, and tends to prove, that with a little good fortune and common prudence, ability must, in spite of envy, gradually elevate a man to the highest employment in the medical department in this country, although the aristocracy is every thing. Sir James proves himself worthy of his advancement, by his recollection of old times and old friends. He received a medical education in Scotland, and early in life came over to this country as surgeon to a noble family, and fortunately performing an operation upon Kutuzof, the favourite of Paul, he was taken into the service of the court. He became a great favourite of the present emperor, and has now for twenty years been his constant companion, whether

in the field or attending congresses; in short, the emperor never travels without him, or misses a day without seeing him, *sans cérémonie*. The first and only time Sir James was ever in England, was at the termination of the war in 1814, when he accompanied the emperor upon his visit. He was present at the meeting between him and our regent, who paid Alexander some compliments upon the prowess of his army, when the emperor, introducing Sir James, said, it is to a subject of yours I owe my chief success; without health an army is nothing, and he formed my hospitals. The regent immediately knighted Sir James with the sword of Platof. A few days after, when on board of the Impregnable, somebody having told the emperor that the regent had made his own physician a baronet, he mentioned it to him, upon which the regent said, "Well, I will make your's one;" and sending for Sir James, desired him to consider himself a baronet, as a patent should be immediately ordered. Sir James quite overcome, faultered something about being unable to bear such a quick succession of the regent's goodness and honours, which, however, did not end here, for Alexander himself forming his coat of arms, requested he might be permitted to have supporters, which the regent granted, and it is particularly mentioned in the patent. They are two of the Semenovskoi guard. In the act of dressing the wound of a man belonging to the regiment on a field of battle, Sir James had met with an accident,

which caused the loss of one of his fingers, "therefore," said the emperor, "you must have two of the guards to support you; a cossack for your crest, that he may defend you, and an eagle introduced in your shield, that if the other two cannot protect you, it may fly away with you, and bear you clear of all your enemies." With all his power, and certainly with more influence over the emperor and all the imperial family than any man in the empire, he conducts himself with so much modesty, urbanity, and kindness to everybody, that he is generally beloved and respected; ever ready to do a kind action, but never taking an undue liberty with any of the imperial family or ministers. Nor does any false pride induce him to forget his origin, as he related to me in a public company, that in youth he was so very poor, as to be unable to pay for all the classes at college, and, therefore, was frequently obliged to bribe the doorkeepers. On one occasion, the door-keeper proved inexorable to bribe or entreaty, and he was on the point of being deprived of a most interesting lecture, when an Irishman, by the name of Gimley, came up and said, "I have only so much, but I will share it with you," and generously paid his fee. Sir James regrets most exceedingly, that in spite of every inquiry, he has never been able to find him out and evince his gratitude. He has, very properly, not allowed his poor relations to flock out to St. Petersburg, but he has taken one nephew by the hand, and pro-

cured him, according to his ability, a high situation in the medical staff of the cavalry. The naval hospitals are under the direction of another countryman of ours, Dr. Leighton, and their state does him equal credit. On a visit to the general hospital at this place, we had unexpectedly, and certainly unsought for, an opportunity of seeing a most delicate operation, successfully performed by Dr. Gibbs, an Englishman, and Dr. ———, a German. It was an aneurism, which rendered it necessary to take up the sub-clavian artery, an operation which has only been three times attempted; twice in Paris, and once in London: one of the Parisian patients died under it, the other two cases succeeded. The whole of the surgeons of the naval staff were assembled, booted, spurred, and some with stars, and none, except the very operators, were allowed to unharness. As may be supposed, in such a delicate operation, without experience, there was much anxiety and some doubt: a false incision would prove instant death; and it must be acknowledged, the operation was unnecessarily long and painful, during which the patient was forcibly held in position, and such was his dread of his superiors, that their harsh commands often obliged him to stifle his cries into groans or moans, although the operation was protracted to nearly two hours: when finished the poor fellow became composed, and kissed Dr. Leighton's hand with fervour.

The hospital is a monument of Peter's foresight,

part of it having been built in his time, for the very purpose to which it is now appropriated.

In consequence of the ability and wise regulations of the doctor, the imperial navy has been brought to an unexampled state of health. In proof of this, a squadron arrived in the autumn from Archangel, with the crews and ships in perfect order, a thing never before heard of, and the senior officer, Captain Candler, has in consequence been presented by the emperor with a diamond cross, to be worn round his neck. Till last year, the ships had never been known to arrive except in the greatest distress and misery. A certain number of vessels are built every year at Archangel, the crews are sent from hence, and remain with little or nothing to do till the ships are launched, which, by ill management, is protracted till late in the season: it being a bar harbour they are sent over it quite light with only their lower masts in. The moment they are moored outside the bar, transports come alongside with their ballast, stores, rigging, and provisions. Every thing is thrust on board at random, and the ships are hurried to sea, without time to arrange their stores, or get the rigging in order, with their crews worn out, and supplied with bad provisions. By this time the equinoctial gales have set in, accompanied with an undue proportion of foggy or hazy weather, with which they generally have to contend off the North Cape, so that the service has always been considered one of great danger. By the represen-

tations of Dr. Leighton they have been made to launch the ships earlier, and to supply them with better provisions, the good effects of which have been felt in Captain Candler's successful passage. Whoever is acquainted with the obstinate bigotry with which every old custom is adhered to in this country, will know how to appréciate exertions which could produce such a salutary change. We had likewise heard much of the philanthropic proceedings of some Englishmen, which had effected an extraordinary improvement in the discipline and consequent comfort of the prisoners in the town gaol. We accordingly visited it with considerable feelings of expectation, which I lament to say were most cruelly disappointed. If any beneficial change has been wrought, the previous fate of the prisoners must have degraded them to a level with the brute creation, for more wretchedness, filth, and restraint, I never saw in my life. It is nevertheless said, that the exertions made to bring them to their present comparative state of comfort, cost the life of an amiable, and in the cause of humanity, indefatigable man, Mr. Wenning, who fell a victim to a fever caught in visiting the prison. However, it must be acknowledged that in the wing appropriated to the females, the beneficial result of their philanthropy is most apparent, the inmates being clean, and the apartments neat and in good order. An affecting incident had just occurred; the daughter of a general officer had been seduced, and had com-

mitted infanticide, which being discovered, she was sentenced to the knout, and to be banished to Siberia for life. Much interest being made for her, the sentence was to be remitted, if anybody could be found to make her his wife. The friends offered twenty-five thousand rubles, which had been accepted by a man, and a few days before our visit she had been liberated, after the marriage ceremony had been performed. The English committee have procured apartments, and established a bookbinder in the prison, who finds employment for the industrious prisoners, many of whom earn a ruble a day: the work is chiefly for the Bible Society. However, the prisoners in general are a hardened and villanous set, crime being strongly depicted in their countenances. Many of them have been five years in gaol, and do not yet know their final sentence. We were the more disappointed and disgusted with all we saw, from the previous report which we had heard of its excellent state. It had been said to be modelled after the most perfect county gaol in England, that of Bury St. Edmunds, the plan and regulations of which had been sent out by the particular desire of the emperor, and for which he had bestowed some diamond rings, without any of them reaching the governor who forwarded the plans.

From this scene of woe, I will now lead you to one of joy and happiness, the marriage between two children of the richest merchants of this city, the report of which had made much noise during a month,

and intense anxiety was manifested to be present at the celebration. Accordingly, on a Sunday evening, for it always takes place in the evening, and generally on the Sabbath, immense crowds were seen flocking into, and surrounding the Kajan church. We, fortunately for the gratification of our curiosity (but unfortunately for our olfactory nerves, for such a stench arising from saturated shubes, *&c.*, was never before experienced by Englishmen), succeeded in making our way so as to be pretty near the temporary altar erected for the occasion. The happy pair at length, with difficulty, took their stations; the bridegroom plainly, the bride richly dressed, and wearing a profusion of diamonds on her head. The ceremony of marriage is always performed in the church, and it consists of three parts:—

First, the betrothing, in which the parties exchange rings, and pledge their mutual love and fidelity. The second is the matrimonial coronation, and is properly the rite of marriage. The third is the dissolving of the crowns. Formerly the crowns were garlands of flowers, but at present every church has two crowns made either of gold or silver.

In the matrimonial coronation, the priest having pointed out the duties of the connubial connexion, and interrogated the parties in respect to their mutual consent, crowns the bridegroom first, saying, The servant of God—is crowned for the handmaid of God—in the name of God, *&c.* Then taking the second crown he puts it on the head of the bride, saying, The handmaid of God

—is crowned for the servant of God—in the name of the Father, &c. On dissolving the crowns the priest concludes with this prayer, "We thy servants, O Lord, having ratified the contract, and performed the office of marriage, as in Cana of Galilee, and laid up the symbols of it, give glory to thee, the Father, and the Son, and the Holy Ghost, now and for ever unto ages of ages." All these offices are now joined in one service. No marriages are solemnized in Lent. Second and third marriages are not considered commendable, and a fourth is altogether forbidden.

From the church they proceeded to the house of the father of the bridegroom, where a sumptuous dinner was provided exclusively for eighty married people; after which, ceremonies are said to have taken place, and to have attended the consummation, fit only for their knowledge and presence. Whether this be true or not, the next evening was dedicated to a magnificent dinner and ball to all the young friends of the parties, and to the latter of which they did me the favour to admit me. I went about midnight, and was most cordially received by the father-in-law, an indigo merchant as rich as a Jew, yet dressed in the common costume, and wearing his beard. After drinking a bumper of champagne with him, he conducted me to their chamber where the happy pair were seated to receive their friends—the bridegroom about twenty-three, the bride fifteen; the latter superbly dressed. In accordance to custom I kissed her

hand, and she saluted my cheek: a number of rich presents were displayed with taste about the room, and under a satin cover certain proofs were said to be deposited, for the gratification of the sceptics, if any such there were. The bed was guarded at each corner by four discreet matrons. Like most Russian marriages, this was one of convenience, the lady being at school when the proposal was made; but, as her father told me, it was too good a chance to be lost, and she was immediately sent for home to receive her future husband. His father was by far the richer man of the two, although hers is more refined, having left off the national costume and beard, and he is even so far polished as to speak a little French. Dancing was kept up with great spirit, and champagne was handed about every instant till five o'clock, when everybody retired, highly pleased with their hospitable reception.

We were lately magnificently entertained by a distinguished general officer, who made us many offers of civility. He had a fine family, all of whom speak English very well, as also several other languages, there being tutors and governesses of different nations in the family. He is a widower, and his daughter, of about thirteen, sat at table, with an English lady on one hand, and a French one on the other; she spoke both languages, as also Italian, fluently, but had difficulty in making herself understood by the servants in Russ, so little is it spoken in genteel society. We met Count Stolstoz there, who, as

well as the general, expressed great surprise that we were not invited to a *fête* about to be given by Count Litter and of which there had been much conversation, there having only been one other during the whole winter. He said there must be some mistake, which he would speak to the count about and rectify, so that we should receive an invitation. However, the *fête* passed off without us, and Count Stolstoz told us he had spoken to the count, who replied, "It is true, I know there are two English officers passing the winter here, and I have seen them always at court; but as they are too proud to condescend to call upon me, I cannot invite them to my party." And we have now found out, that, instead of a court introduction being an introduction to everybody, Russian etiquette expects that you immediately call or send your card to every person of distinction, and that in consequence of our not having done so, we had been looked upon with a jealous eye, and considered extremely proud and unbending—a character we by no means deserved, or wished to act up to, as it would be the means of defeating the object we had in view, that of acquiring an intimate knowledge of the nature, customs, and manners of the country. We certainly felt annoyed; however, upon speaking to Colonel Cathcart on the subject, he regretted the circumstance, but assured us little had been lost, for the only two parties had been those before alluded to, Petersburg never having been known to be so dull during a winter; some im-

puting it to the absence of the emperor, others to the general complaint of poverty: the latter I think the more probable. We had been confirmed in some measure in our error of a court introduction being a general introduction to every party, by having, so soon after our appearance at court, received the invitation of the Grand Veneur Nariskin, to his grand *fête*, which was only interrupted by the death of his sister-in-law. As we had not at the time called upon him, our obligations are due to him, and he has proved himself more a man of the world than any of the other great officers of state.

Soon after our arrival, society sustained a very great loss by the death of the Duke of Serra Capriola, Neapolitan minister, and father of the *Corps Diplomatique*, a fine, old nobleman of seventy-six, married into one of the first families in Russia, at which court he had resided upwards of forty years. We met him at Sir Charles Bagot's, and he had given us a general invitation to his house; but death laid his cold and remorseless hands on him, before we could take advantage of his friendly offer. We, however, sprinkled holy water over him as he lay in state in his *chapelle ardente*, and afterwards attended his remains to the catholic church, where high and solemn mass was performed by the venerable bishop, near ninety years old, in the presence of all the first people in the city. He died universally beloved and respected: even to within a few days of his death he was the soul of society.

The ground has not this winter been so hard frozen as to prevent interment, though the cold has been such as to cause considerable inconvenience to the pall-bearers and attendants. The protestant cemetery is at a considerable distance. A young Englishman, who was highly respected, died, and in attending his remains to the grave, several of his friends caught such severe colds as to be nearly following his example. The cemetery contains many interesting monuments; but we were particularly struck by a large one, to the memory of an amiable and highly accomplished countrywoman of ours, the late lady of Admiral Tchitchagof, and daughter of the late commissioner Proby, one of the companions of Anson. It bears the following epitaph inscribed in English, after her style, title, *&c.*

My bliss for ever have I buried here.

I also saw a neat tomb, highly panegyrical of my late friend, Mr. Cassamajor, who died here, as our minister, universally regretted.

Since the aggrandizement of the empire, several new terms to distinguish the different acquisitions have sprung up, *viz.*, Great Russia, or the original provinces, such as Moscow, Vladimir, *&c.*; Little Russia, or the Ukraine, Kiof, Tchernigof, *&c.*; White Russia, or Smolensko, Mokelef, *&c*; New Russia, or Ekaterinoslaf, *&c. &c.* The united population may be reckoned at fifty-three million three hundred thousand; while in Poland there

is an acquisition of two million seven hundred thousand, making a grand total of fifty-six million.

The strength of the Russian army is variously reported; but from the best sources of information, I shall venture to state it at eight hundred thousand men of all arms, of whom, perhaps, not more than four hundred thousand are positively efficient for field duties. Six grand armies are known by the following designations: *viz.*, advanced guard, under the command of Constantine, consisting of eighty thousand; army of the right, eighty thousand; army of the centre, two hundred and forty thousand; army of the left, or that on the Pruth, eighty thousand; army in Georgia, *&c.*, under General Yermolof, seventy thousand; army of the colonies, one hundred thousand; while the remainder is dispersed over the provinces of this vast empire, in garrisons, *&c.*, or consists of cossacks, and other irregular troops, which can, in case of necessity, be brought forward. For instance, the cossacks at all times provide ten thousand cavalry, which serve as police all over the empire; but in war they usually send forty or fifty thousand into the field. This immense Russian army is kept up by an occasional levy upon the peasantry on all the estates throughout the empire, which levy it is the object of the military colonies to render unnecessary; and in aid of which object the emperor has just decreed, that the army shall be allowed to decrease gradually onc-

third, or to five hundred and thirty thousand, which will be a great relief to the country in every respect.

During the early part of our sojourn here, we had several opportunities of seeing the imperial guards under arms, and also some sham-fights, with troops of all arms. The whole were remarkably steady under fire, and the cavalry charges the most impetuous my brother had ever witnessed; yet all went off without accident.

The imperial guard consists of forty thousand men, picked out from all the regiments in the service, the colonels, when required, being obliged to furnish their best and handsomest soldiers; and if upon their arrival at Petersburg, they are not approved they must be exchanged, and the expense falls upon the colonel who sent them.

Formerly an adjutant of the emperor's was sent down, and the regiment was drawn out for his inspection and choice, but the officers sent the best men to the hospital, or took them for servants, and the rest of the fine-looking ones were instructed to make wry faces, appear lame, *&c.*, so that when the adjutant came to a fine grown fellow, but with contortions, he would exclaim. "What a pity so fine a fellow should be too ugly for the imperial guard." The emperor finding this plan did not procure him good men, left the selection to the colonels, with the understanding, that if rejected, the expense should fall upon them. Many preferred the expense to losing their prime men, and sent the se-

condary soldiers, with an assurance that they were the best. After a time the emperor became annoyed at his ill success, and if bad men were presented, he would say, " If these are the best men, what a miserable colonel and regiment it must be, let them be broke or sent upon a disagreeable service." So that now, for their own credit and advantage, they are obliged, when required, to furnish their finest and best men, particularly those who possess honorary distinctions. Yet with all these advantages, of a selection from eight hundred thousand men, the extent of the embodied army, I should not say that, generally speaking, the imperial guard is composed of extraordinarily fine men. Indeed, taken individually, they are mediocre; as a body, they certainly look well, although they are short, but they are dressed and made up for effect. Their clothes fit well; they are dreadfully drawn in above the hips, and by way of forming a good bust, they are obliged to carry their spare trowsers across the chest; and upon the whole are so braced up, as to be unfit for active or quick movements. The bracing-in system was carried to such a pitch, as to cause the deaths of many; and upon the representation of Sir James Wiley, the emperor issued an order dispensing with it; but as the colonels know he is pleased with this appearance of the soldiers, they encourage them in the practice, although they do not absolutely order it.

The two regiments of cavalry, one called La

Chevalier Garde, and the other La Garde à Cheval, both dressed in white, are, together with their horses, the finest I have ever seen, not even excepting our own Life Guards, or Les Grenadiers de la Garde à Cheval in France. The court-dress of the officers is red, and looks very handsome. We unfortunately were one day overtaken by a party of the privates on a narrow *trottoir*, and although my brother is six feet high, we were both like Gulliver amongst the Brobdignags; we came out like millers, and were very nearly smothered by their pipe-clay. The weight they carry to a charge with their powerful horses must be irresistible.

The attachment of the whole of the guards to the imperial family has never been doubted, and, therefore, the mutiny of one of the regiments in 1820, caused a great sensation. It did not, however, arise from disaffection, but from the extreme severity of the discipline, which the general commanding it had introduced; and he frequently struck them on the face, a punishment they could not bear. The Grand Duke Michael was first sent to reduce them to subordination, but they coolly told him to return, as he was a beardless boy; but on the appearance of the reigning empress, who is adored throughout the empire by all classes, they quietly submitted. They were afterwards broke as a regiment, but this instance of open resistance, and proof that they dared to think for themselves, caused a great sensation, and the whole of the regiments were af-

terwards exiled from Petersburg. It was only last summer that they returned, after having been inspected by the emperor; on which occasion they were forgiven, and a magnificent military *fête* ensued, at which his majesty assisted, and, I believe, perfect confidence is restored.

But in consequence of so extraordinary and unexpected an event having taken place during the emperor's absence, he, last year, when he repaired to the congress at Verona, appointed a secret regency: that is, three persons were empowered to act in his name, in case of any emergency, but without such a case arising, they were to continue their ordinary, individual employments. General Sacken, the commander-in-chief of the first army, was at the head of the commission, and Sparansky was also a member. Both of them had been victims of intrigue (so common in Russia), and are now proofs of the emperor's sound discrimination, sense, and judgment, when unfettered by foreign or domestic influence. The power which Napoleon exercised over all the sovereigns of Europe, with the exception of our own, is too well known to be attempted to be denied by anybody, a power, in many instances, amounting almost to fascination, and under the dominion of which, Alexander fell in common with others. As Sacken and Sparansky had the honour and good of their master at heart, it is not to be wondered that Caulincourt was ordered to attempt their ruin, or that he suc-

ceeded in removing them from the person of the emperor, and finally into banishment, where they remained as long as French intrigue triumphed; but when it succumbed before common reason, they were the first to be recalled to the confidence of the sovereign. But, as is often the case, much good has proceeded from evil, and great benefit was derived from Sparansky's banishment to Siberia, whither he was sent one morning by the influence of Caulincourt, after he had transacted official business with the emperor, without perceiving that his disgrace was at hand. As an exile, he gained an intimate knowledge of that extensive country, which is divided into two governments, over both of which he has since been nominated governor-general, and has corrected innumerable abuses which he knew by experience to exist. He feels a lively interest in meliorating the condition of the exiles; for which purpose he frequently makes a tour of personal inspection. He is much respected, and is supposed to be the most upright man in the empire. He does not hold any ostensible situation in the government, but has great influence as private secretary to the emperor.

The ministers in general are considered to be without the slightest patriotism, merely striving to benefit themselves and families during the time they may be in office, well knowing that when out, they themselves will be harassed by their successors. It is no uncommon thing for a man to have retired for many years from public employment, supposing

every account and transaction settled, and to be called upon unexpectedly to pay large sums; and if unable, his estates are confiscated, because, perhaps he has lost the necessary documents for justifying himself, or because the witnesses may be dead. The finance department is in the worst possible state. In order to sustain the revenue, so as to serve the present minister's time, recourse has been had to such experiments as nearly to ruin the receipt of many taxes, and generally to diminish the permanent income of the state, although they serve to produce a sum for a momentary exigency. I will instance two articles, brandy and salt, both manufactured in the empire, and both formerly good in kind, producing a great and steady revenue to the crown; but the former has within these few years been subject to such strong and vexatious measures, that it has deteriorated in quality so much, as to become nearly a slow poison, whilst the duty has decreased considerably in amount. Last year an order was issued, that every Kabak should pay a certain sum, as the duty upon spirits sold, let the consumption be what it might, and this sum was rated at much beyond the average amount. The masters remonstrated, but were told, if the duty was not paid, their licenses would be suspended, and their stock confiscated, and in consequence of which they have been reduced to the necessity of diluting or mixing the spirit with pungent, pernicious ingredients, in the one case, to the prejudice of the customer's pocket, in the other, to that of his health; but in both pro-

ducing a sadly immoral feeling. So bad is the quality, that it is a common saying, that M. Gourief has put a stop to drunkenness in Russia, for although what is sold for brandy may stupify, it can never exhilarate or make a man drunk.

Native salt, in Catharine's time, was cheap and plentiful, both in Petersburg and Moscow; but of late years heavy taxes have been so oppressively levied upon it, as to render the trade unprofitable, and, in consequence of which, it has become dear and scarce, and they have been obliged to encourage the importation of salt to the great prejudice of their own inexhaustible mines and lakes. They now see their folly; but the mischief will require many years to repair it, and in the mean time the revenue and the credit of government suffer.

Under such systems the fair and honourable merchant must be driven out of the market by the contrabandist, for their impolitic measures extend to foreign as well as domestic commerce. It is incontrovertible that the consumption of British manufactured goods, has not in the slightest degree decreased in Russia since the almost prohibitory and vexatious import regulations have been acted upon. Yet their effect has been such as to bear hard upon all the old, established, and respectable, English commercial houses, which, ever since the foundation of the city, have been its greatest ornament and support. I have met two or three intelligent travellers employed by mercantile houses in

England, who came out to ascertain whether it was possible to continue their exports to Russia; or whether it would be more prudent to wind up their accounts, and close all dealings with the country: the result of their inquiries has been invariably in favour of the latter measure. From this it must result, that the contraband trade is flourishing, and with such temptations and such an extent of frontier, it will be impossible to prevent it, for however strong and even vindictive measures may drive it from one part, it cannot fail to be successfully carried to another. Yet with all these urgent proofs before their eyes, such are the national vanity and blind confidence, that hardly a month passes without a flaming Ukaz issuing for the encouragement, as it is called, of native manufactures, or an equally flaming report of a new establishment, or the success of an old one.

I have before remarked upon the extraordinary depression of the paper money, eight hundred millions of rubles, or about thirty-three million sterling, being in circulation, and how much the exchange is, in consequence, against Russia; yet a short time since a magnificent Exchange was built, which was opened, and a colossal bust of the emperor inaugurated with much pomp and ceremony. The building is certainly imposing, spacious, and well calculated for its intended purpose; but by some error of the architects, probably similar to the errors of the minister of finance, soon after its

completion, part of the roof fell in; but all has been again put to rights, or rather, like the revenue, patched up.

Some of our merchants, feeling how ill they have been treated, refused to subscribe to the inauguration *fête*, and perhaps they were right, because it was offering incense at a shrine they could neither respect nor have confidence in.

The former commercial treaties with Russia placed the English merchants upon high and respectable grounds; they were only amenable to the college of commerce, and, unless for some breach of the public laws, the police had no jurisdiction over them. They were exempt from the quartering of soldiers, or the civil servants of the crown, and possessed the privilege of paying their customs in the currency of the empire, and not in foreign bullion (to be occasionally obtained only at very advanced prices), as exacted from the subjects of other nations not protected by commercial treaties. They could, likewise, carry on their commerce without being enrolled in one of the Guilds.

This treaty, or rather the term for which it had been prolonged, expired about the year 1806, when Mr. Stuart, our then *chargé d'affaires* at the court of St. Petersburg, with that ability and tact for which he has since been so distinguished, contrived to carry the point of its unconditional renewal. But as his rank was not thought at home sufficiently high to conclude so important an affair, or ministers

perhaps, wishing to give *éclat* to the ambassador whom they had just appointed, the signing was deferred till his arrival, which was much protracted by a visit to Stockholm. When he did arrive, by an ill-judged attempt to add some clause favourable to the Hudson Bay Company, together with the increasing French influence, nothing was done before hostilities ensued, and negatived the whole arrangement. It is much to be regretted that after the expulsion of the French, and the saving of Prussia from the grasp of Buonaparte, certainly by our extraordinary exertions, such were (as they were called) the chivalrous feelings of our ministers, that the whole of the exclusive privileges of our merchants, which tended so much to their respectability, were instantly lost sight of. They were reduced to the level of and amalgamated with the generality of foreigners in Russia, and consequently lost their former high and independent station. They are now obliged, in order to obtain certain privileges, to inscribe themselves as foreign guests, or in the first guild, both of which require a capital of fifty thousand rubles. Upon this a considerable annual sum is paid in advance, and they cannot withdraw their names without paying a heavy fine, even should they wish to quit the empire, and retire from commerce.

The obligation of enrolment as a foreign guest, or in one of the guilds or privileged societies, into which all the tradesmen and merchants in Russia

are divided, according to the amount of their capital, is extremely onerous, because, as so much depends upon the supposed wealth of a commercial house, a considerable sacrifice will often of necessity be made to public opinion, by subscribing to a higher guild than the positive amount of capital would justify, in order to inspire that confidence so absolutely necessary in mercantile transactions.

The importance to Russia of the trade with England, may be judged of by the circumstance that, out of one thousand and seventy-four ships which arrived at Cronstadt during the last year, five hundred and ninety-four were British; of the one thousand which arrived at Riga, six hundred; and of the two hundred and ten which arrived at Archangel, one hundred and seventy-one*: added to which, I subjoin several curious and interesting documents showing the total amount of goods exported from Petersburg during the year 1822 *&c. &c.*; after considering which, I think no one will be found sufficiently hardy to deny the importance

* The ten thousand five hundred vessels which sailed through the Sound in 1822, belonged to different nations, in the following proportions: three thousand five hundred and thirty-eight English, two thousand and seventy-five Prussians, one thousand three hundred and four Swedish, seven hundred and fifty-six Danish, five hundred and fifty-six from Mecklenburg, four hundred from the Low Countries, three hundred and seventy-one Russian, three hundred and fifty-eight Hanoverian, one hundred and sixty-seven American, one hundred and fifteen from Lubeck, thirty-three from Bremen, thirty-one French, thirty from Oldenburg, twenty-nine from Hamburg, eleven from Norway, and six from Portugal.

of British merchants, or to doubt that, as a body, they ought to be entitled to some particular privileges and marks of respect in the Russian empire. (See annexed Tables.)

As the income of most of the Russian nobility is derived from the sale of the produce of their estates for exportation, and as a war with England produces a total stagnation of exports, it will easily be seen how unpopular and disadvantageous a rupture with this country must ever prove, and how much it is the interest of both to cultivate the ties of friendship; indeed, morally speaking, providence has so determined their relative situations and wants, that were it not for unhappy, and often unnecessary political differences, there would be no room for other than acts of mutual benefit; and where we annually take from her so large a portion of her produce, she surely ought, in fairness and reciprocity, to take from us a certain return, unfettered by vexatious duties and restrictions, which, after all, the government is unable to enforce.

In all the large towns of this empire there are natives who engage to execute every public or private undertaking of any considerable extent or labour, for an adequate sum of money; these people are called *Podriadschiki,* and such as contract are called *Podriads.* By them most of the great undertakings are carried on in Russia (as with our contractors).

Another institution, extremely useful, is that of the *artels,* or separate companies of labourers or

1821.	1822.	1823.	1824.	1825.
70360	17227	16559	26070	42422
.....	12	.....	.....	.....
42	52	14	.....	.....
.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
9	54	12	.....	.....
9	5	6	.....	.....
.....	268	306	467	649
352	80	12	.....	.....
319	1	52	51	55
.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
77	71	75	9	84
66	12	116	51	27
3498	3327	5472	4996	5683
48	1015	1455	1968	1185
763	244	1744	77	1804
600	60	66	154	231
2764	4806	3613	2530	1797
508366	506390	174101	555375	761248
1491.	627	.....	.....	.....
4635	1264	1866	2021	4246
14537	24726	7407	15478	16072
63	548	149	266	208
2574	395	2356	948	2731
5635	6458	2116	12948	16870
50	48	.....	.....	.....
102	40	370	.....	.....
24	.....	11	.....	.....
3890	1484	400	162	1527
333	179	432	232	258
50687 Ps.	13851 Ps.	18166 Ps.	25215 Ps.	27941 Ps.
3492	.....	245	.....	133
4878	4851	.....	.....	.....
1560	.....	.....	.....	.....
10444	5000	.....	.....	.....
4945	.....	.....	.....	.....
645	.....	.....	.....	.....
1321	.....	.....	.....	.....
7661	5559	.....	.....	.....
47145	295	1407	7590	12946
75	110	195	96	252
226	146	371	.....	.....
77	10	38	.....	.....
32597	2520	8859	1251	15024
19	4	112	96	66
424	203	807	783	605
9	26	5	.....	.....
80	.....	.....	.....	.....
1755172	389363	637956	969068	997706
177222	927	.....	.....	.....
271	91	10	.....	.....
89	120	20	.....	.....
.....	46	104	.....	.....
180	.....	.....	4785	5131
14633	12151	22954	7709	13700
228	116	173	98	165
3067	15271	449	400	3230
352	103	314	312	366
3458	6174	8233	6734	12505
124	89	177	84	39
870	806	320	291	713

			5331	11174	6705	359	72	91	352	57	
Gr.			31	21	.....	28	25	54	33¼	46¼	
Gum, Ass.	Pd.	446	5291	23471	5412	9600	4327	3644	9879	11240	12425
Do. Benjam	do.	9	37	30	.....	56	676	129	503	120	.....
Do. Copal	do.	650	1046	730	327	433	632	602	790	212	168
Do. Elastic	do.	22	207	211	142	27	515	.....	.....	1645	450
Do. Gutti	do.	26	101	35	6	6	101	10	3	9¼	1
Do. Myrrhoe	do.	6¼	4	25	61	.....	.....	39	590	31	122
Do. Olibanum	do.	1	.....	.....	21	.....	42	102	.....	.....	.....
Do. Sandarac	do.	937	994	1246	921	.....	1463	3532	3579	3785	5684
Do. Guajac	do.	.....	220	323	61	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Do. Seneg. and Arabic	do.	43	102	105	.....	.....	.....	.....	5	.....	.....
Do. Tragacanth	do.	1055	291	5021	3095	677	1128	3501	2201	4562	2652
Herrings	Barr.	6	12	13	5	.....	1	2	3¼	.....	.....
Hops	Pd.	18051	18948	39890	33718	62960	34874	44956	48262	31759	34492
India berries	do.	34	.....	40	37	188	542	4327	729	557	.....
Indigo	do.	261	371	160	16	310	219	.....	15	.....	.....
Ipecacuanha	do.	21071	13927	16810	13167	28011	14022	5554	16914	11457	13763
Instruments, Iron	do.	19	60	36	58	14	44	35	56	113	236
Lamp-black	do.	5640	10363	13216	12588	17355	10794	5759	4428	6847	5354
Lavender flowers	do.	77	.....	55	87	9	10	155	.....	.....	.....
Lead in pigs	do.	132	120	259	40	.....	177	26	.....	.....	.....
Do. in sheets	do.	76977	55490	63029	106109	192344	126571	45725	61133	67162	132287
Do. pencils	Doz.	148	2657	2034	3318	5704	5129	833	1228	7698	20205
Lemon Juice	Pips	10585	19106	29755	27386	17352	14214	9726	6820	17070	37613
Do. salted	do.	258	109	80	85	172	163	289	216	113	65
Do. and Oranges	do.	12	28	21	.....	.....	105	116	30¼	14	27
Linen	Chests.	45160	27339	20933	41128	38354	30947	51728	53585	35333	36748
Litharge	Ps.	.....	.....	.....	.....	4699	4780	2967	837	859	2212
Mace	Pd.	1588	4616	3891	8	3196	3493	3974	2967	4153	4815
Madder	lb.	.....	160	360	479	.....	602	.....	290	467	2054
Magnesia	Pd.	7594	25748	58790	28250	33096	5159	27202	24968	52014	35695
Magnus	do.	25	.....	527	.....	490	576	1193	378	373	114
Manna	do.	1118	404	2384	9621	4140	554	.....	4132	9040	13407
Minium	do.	83	16	.....	16	7	67	58	208	152	114
Molasses	do.	5170	3663	893	3392	7530	4685	1968	1210	2240	3943
Molybdena	do.	2557	1955	5933	.....	7833	32	.....	.....	.....	.....
Musk	Ounz.	.....	9	752	422	383	80	.....	.....	.....	.....
Mustard	Pd.	68	576	441	1007	856	120	132	267¼	296	379
Nankeens	Ps.	.....	.....	300	516	761	760	164	.....	.....	.....
Naples yellow	Pd.	20857	41100	12903	12383	32371	10240	5633	.....	.....	.....
Needles	thous.	226	52	12	164	67	16	.....	4	.....	.....
Nuts, all sorts	Bags.	2276	12457	26823	16996	29713	11898	1619	630	.....	.....
Do. Cocoa	Ps.	.....	.....	203	1710	1157	1709	404	498	925	499
Nutmegs	Pd.	.....	.....	200	.....	10490	6000	400	1830	60	5600
Ochre	do.	54	106	39	52	400	123	.....	46	89	100
Oil, salad and ordinary	do.	.....	357	335	37	1027	.....	468	439	555	1434
Do. scented all sorts	lb.	12445	21849	70729	17798	95407	110678	103397	33728	153777	37936
Do. of Vitriol	Pd.	9370	5892	6943	10458	10240	7463	3463	7436	10209	13278
Olives	do.	31	430	536	1134	4318	268	637	23	.....	12
Opium	do.	1597	561	203	960	1575	286	105	656	1296	1627
Oranges dry	do.	.....	.....	2	.....	.....	12	24	13	60	26
Orpiment	do.	451	21	117	366	674	42	2100	235	.....	.....
Orchilla	do.	.....	9	.....	38	25	15	11	.....	.....	.....
Oysters	Bar.	417	403	13	10	62	.....	126	17	176	262
Paper	Reams.	.....	367	388	248	351	323	424	591	420	299
Peel, Lemon and Orange	Pd.	469	267	734	830	5739	10712	391	6683	10057	9596
Pepper	do.	7957	13820	59	47	186	1216	749	1001	2058	1444
Peruvian bark	do.	37	478	13405	5512	15317	5854	9132	11020	3361	8104
Pimento	do.	921	84	251	426	264	779	422	296	800	282
Pitcoal	do.	116529	493738	435	376	.....	300	576	1405	831	306
Porter	Hhds.	1047	2568	558625	539636	425137	411438	490521	273680	547371	624283
Poison nuts	Pd.	.....	31	594	144	769	4993	787	597	636	333
Prunes	do.	16875	23513	204	75	95	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Pumice stone	do.	9632	2033	53549	66732	34482	34098	43326	67732	1693	34253
Quercitron bark	do.	22907	7170	6696	4301	10194	5232	3067	1318	478	1033
Quicksilver	do.	79	2153	1040	20097	24156	3912	27703	9096	18963	27116
Raisins	Ps.	15314	1889	1666	1652	3130	387	2356	57	1764	1185
Ribbons, all sorts	do.	41910	242434	1613	5842	10319	6623	7245	10767	5968	5326
				357859	106665	54500	76341	50922	63927	114926	145811

GENERAL LIST OF GOODS IMPORTED IN ST. PETERSBURG,

From 1816 to 1825.

		1816.	1817.	1818.	1819.	1820.	1821.	1822.	1823.	1824.	1825.
Alum	Pd.	27756	67159	50367	58233	47361	62159	46553	86804	56581	57661
Almonds	do.	6895	4806	9644	11744	23130	14173	15864	14489	21764	9346
Aloes	do.	571	397	691	455	497	296	65	467	1423	179
Amber	lb.	.....	.....	20	.....	56	2214	1230	2200	.....	.....
Anchovies	Pd.	445	174	395	321	681	14	20	4	.....	.....
Annotto	do.	2352	3418	5133	.....	.....	.....	744	999	1876	1867
Antimony	do.	585	574	590	635	376	126	129	1054	224	293
Apples and Pears	Bar.	4466	4408	5139	10269	8653	13553	17135	22962	13738	13683
Aqua fortis	Pd.	169	16	7	.....	52	17	.....	.....	.....	.....
Argol	do.	705	129	194	2292	2115	4851	126	628	1483	3991
Arsenic	do.	783	1458	324	678	1341	2160	1216	2052	920	666
Assafœtida	do.	108	27	10	35	54	209	201	196	299	109
Badiane	do.	.....	25	176	691	1074	60	.....	350	431	58
Balsam Copaiva	do.	177	276	110	37	5	4	3½	32	33	412
do. Peruvianum	do.	.....	27	34	18	24	2	14	16	21¾	22¼
Barley peeled	do.	140	156	968	1170	1102	1459	.....	6	.....	.....
Bay berries	do.	236	134	120	36	.....	25	128	266	.....	4
Do. Oil	do.	134	38	148	33	295	36	22	114	59	224
Do. leaves	do.	452	953	449	245	166	205	501	819	816	1474
Beer, English	Casks.	.....	.....	.....	.....	299	1109	502	111	.....	.....
Berlin blue	lb.	.....	68	20	.....	726	984	1665	396	1553	1160
Bloodstone	Pd.	.....	61	63	33	726	41	66	70	½	80
Borax	do.	230	1442	480	1079	2542	2357	501	38	207	542
Brimstone raw and refined	do.	7501	810	1021	14953	29285	19937	38899	2365	3732	33750
Do. flowers	do.	.....	.....	10	979	63	469	424	.....	.....	.....
Brown red	do.	.....	1006	4261	2426	6313	2234	3489	3243	.....	.....
Bulbs	Chests.	12	125	55	52	66	44	77	72	.....	.....
Cacoa	Pd.	435	129	276	729	860	2095	722	117	.....	.....
Camphire	do.	490	364	1618	731	1613	334	763	2069	331	368
Capers	do.	118	112	156	255	454	589	402	525	946	1250
Cardamom	do.	14	42	80	151	158	15	265	55	848	544
Carmine	Ounz.	267	397	250	250	416	.....	48	126	63	66
Cascarilla bark	Pd.	.....	.....	.....	130	238	94	11	39	.....	.....
Castoreum	lb.	18	.....	.....	30	25	30	.....	.....	.....	.....
Chalk	Pd.	21406	12112	6725	10819	52768	34784	231705	.....	.....	.....
Cheese	do.	3088	3945	6713	4870	11926	4810	3321	2829	.....	.....
Chesnuts	do.	8	169	.....	118	471	218	342	.....	5902	13596
Cinnabar	do.	16	116	137	23	99	17	120	7	.....	.....
Cinnamon and Cassia lignea	do.	1369	2790	243	329	738	618	1075	2767	61	35
Cloth Shears	Pies.	56	28	140	342	194	210	100	202	97	578
Cloves	Pd.	353	711	1226	1044	1373	155	675	1466	.....	.....
Cobalt	lb.	240	50	515	52	20	82	25	120	536	779
Cochineal	Pd.	1688	1096	1331	652	1751	2329	747	1459	.....	.....
Coffee	do.	74715	73958	48449	79921	146957	62159	63664	110339	2106	2396
Corkwood	do.	4364	2277	10092	2486	7879	6614	3218	3728	96767	74889
Corks	Bal.	335	682	739	537	175	677	502	468	9090	7667
Cotton	Pd.	4159	13357	24600	34136	10962	23998	30038	37894	444	828
Cotton Goods, as Calicoes, Cambrics, Muslins, Velveteens, Velvets, &c.	Ars.	1218624	7182064	1295487	6957180	994900 Ps.	810549 Ps.	141268 Ps.	202421 Ps.	22875	23439
Cream of Tartar	Pd.	732	181	504	1604	1592	1600	922	1695	165803 Ps.	186765 Ps.
Currants	do.	1126	.....	.....	129	167	426	632	1035	2006	1135
Dragon blood	do.	2	11	16	10	16	23	47	20	630	122
Drugs	do.	370	.....	.....	.....	1203	3038	2467	1560	30	44
Dutch pink	do.	595	1059	853	584	992	599	64	776	2736	6869
Earthen ware	do.	2606	4763	4886	3664	2989	20691	15587	24842	2191	2293
Elephants' teeth	do.	32	99	4	38	280	321	47	23	11222	7969
Emeril	do.	275	561	1012	130	509	459	1933	859	67	.....
Figs	do.	784	118	1624	3770	247	3492	4820	2096	1779	1854
Fr.....	.....	1312	362	1536	8750	2792	2966	584	453	2576	856
31	66	59	911	4141	1808	2596	494	.....	548	696	.....
0502	1816	1906	1828	6554	354	25	20	66	12	2454	1475

GENERAL LIST—*continued.*

		1816.	1817.	1818.	1819.	1820.	1821.	1822.	1823.	1824.	1825.
Rice	Pd.	7.884	844	9139	50917	30197	70509	17727	18549	28879	89158
Ringal	do.	.....	36	25	34	.....	.....	12	.....	.....	.....
Roses leaves, salted	do.	.....	112	185	16	14	.....	52	14	.....	.....
Rosemary	do.	10	235	244	12	.....	9	.....	.....	.....	.....
Roots, Arrow	do.	18	98	4	2	.....	9	54	12	.....	.....
Do. Columbo	do.	14	126	42	182	321	352	268	6	.....	.....
Do. Gentian	do.	.....	178	42	254	536	319	66	266	667	649
Do. Ipeca	do.	493	129	42	309	939	.....	4	12	.....	.....
Do. Jalap	do.	20	691	143	.....	17	77	.....	52	44	84
Do. Persicum	do.	.....	.....	6	134	11	66	73	.....	.....	.....
Do. Snake	do.	2	68	55	2000	6230	3436	3237	75	9	64
Do. Snake Serpent	do.	1809	2345	2777	792	114	48	5472	116	61	64
Safflower	do.	.....	737	1795	1427	160	763	1015	4895	4896	5983
Saffron	lbs.	484	1520	1200	2055	2493	600	60	1455	1963	1185
Sago	do.	287	1803	2337	4907	4987	5764	4896	1244	77	1984
Sal-ammoniac	do.	1063	972623	569263	.....	571	1491	627	154	1554	231
Salt	do.	2128572	.....	.....	2198	4016	4633	1264	5613	2330	1782
Saltpetre	do.	.....	1749	3239	18613	38779	14337	24726	1895	2021	4246
Sarsaparilla	do.	179	5264	67350	.....	123	83	548	7497	15478	16972
Scythes	Pr.	.....	1452	20	2401	2503	2574	300	1429	266	266
Senna Leaves	Pd.	175	60	2274	7097	12443	5635	6458	2356	946	2231
Shellack	do.	1661	2229	2035	.....	.....	50	48	2110	12240	16979
Shumack	do.	1498	.....	.....	.....	.....	102	40	.....	.....	.....
Semen Cumfel	do.	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	24	.....	370	.....	.....
Do. Fumicule	do.	31	.....	.....	11749	11503	3290	1481	11	.....	.....
Do. Sabadille	do.	26	12699	13722	105	475	353	779	4099	162	1827
Sickles	Pr.	32	724	1388	.....	.....	59657 Pr.	13851 Pr.	432	252	253
Silk, raw	do.	.....	.....	1448840	705898	47630 Pr.	.....	.....	18106 Pr.	25373 Pr.	27041 Pr.
Silk Goods, all kinds, as Satin, Levantine, Velvet, Serge, &c.	Ars.	649714	1954093	2135	1509	2119	3402	.....	243	.....	.....
Skins, Bears	Pcs.	542	2110	3393	4569	4469	4678	4851	.....	.....	133
Do. Beavers	do.	1462	7981	.....	.....	4350	1569	.....	.....	.....	.....
Do. Chinchilla	do.	.....	.....	.....	5200	6993	10434	5000	.....	.....	.....
Do. Coney	do.	.....	1049	8997	2222	3647	6945	.....	.....	.....	.....
Do. Fox	do.	1374	8516	36	.....	4500	645	.....	.....	.....	.....
Do. Mink	do.	436	3091	102	1062	1905	1321	.....	.....	.....	.....
Do. Martens	do.	290	3400	9102	4236	9205	2661	5592	.....	.....	.....
Do. Otters	do.	2764	8547	46902	30872	4955	47145	295	1467	7690	12946
Do. Racoons	do.	11244	10	75	134	20	75	110	1935	90	252
Small	do.	36	10	90	.....	205	226	146	271	.....	.....
Soap, Venet. and Neapol.	do.	114	43	.....	53	2	77	16	36	.....	.....
Squills	do.	7	12993	19945	23052	13098	32597	3529	20559	1251	15024
Spelter	do.	6012	.....	15	36	7	19	4	112	96	60
Spermaceti	do.	1	.....	531	3076	14	424	263	897	783	605
Steel	do.	47	325	2	6	.....	6	20	5	.....	.....
Storax	do.	9	8	32	.....	.....	20	.....	.....	.....	.....
Sublimate	do.	14	436495	569100	496375	1082230	1758172	389363	457489	989003	997706
Sugar, raw	do.	332390	195805	193346	69877	177856	177222	527	.....	.....	.....
Do. refined	do.	84393	.....	76	274	1292	274	91	16	.....	.....
Do. candy	do.	.....	103	236	149	239	39	129	20	.....	.....
Table Clocks	Pc.	93	210	57	454	503	109	46	104	4765	5131
Tamarinds	Pd.	10	13	397	23002	22377	14033	12151	22954	7709	15709
Terra de Sienna, burnt	do.	.....	29971	30379	324	293	238	116	173	98	165
Tin, in bars	do.	13444	61	109	3463	290	3067	10271	449	409	3250
Do. foil	do.	34	3346	3139	293	387	352	103	344	312	366
Do. plates, to 450 boxes in a Box	Pcs.	1200	330	4443	3006	3627	3458	6174	8233	6734	12565
Tobacco, Snuff	do.	2083	2133	459	149	661	124	69	177	94	30
Do. leaf	do.	203	293	59	71	311	870	806	320	291	713
Do. cut	do.	24	27	36	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Tea, Bohea	Chests.	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Do. Congou	do.	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Do. Hyson	do.	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Do. Singlo	do.	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Do. Souchong	do.	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Do. Twankay	do.	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Do. Young Hyson	do.	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Teeth, Elephants	Cwt.	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Terra Japonica	Pd.	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Tortoise-shell	do.	166	179	107	141	130	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Tripoli	do.	35	.....	115	.....	70	23	.....	.....	.....	.....
Truffles	do.	93	165	168	29	112	139	100	4	.....	47
Turpentine	do.	2964	456	7874	2653	1224	836	1122	614	124	95
Turmeric	do.	6000	12999	2676	1997	1357	1268	3879	2791	2705	4522
Twist	do.	73773	176774	157431	115856	248390	121631	130231	204947	323529	257103
Umber	do.	237	11	2045	22	3336	1205	.....	.....	.....	.....
Vanilla	do.	213	16	2000	69	24	42	661	914	421	27
Verdigris	Pd.	1217	2257	1721	4097	2865	703	4130	7558	3138	981
Verditer	do.	234	355	323	429	392	308	172	454	607	899
Vinegar	Hhds.	90	65	77	176	212	319	89	327	13	82
Vitriol	Pd.	1674	1725	6855	9235	6797	3268	6902	1046	1231	1938
Watches, gold	do.	.....	49	182	307	436	105	62	111	.....	.....
Do. silver	do.	257	1549	1745	2419	1188	161	15	195	.....	.....
Do. pinchbeck	do.	.....	245	347	162	102	79	.....	.....	.....	.....
Waters, mineral	Pitch.	30713	100729	130556	130783	52716	75609	94178	130956	164742	87463
Do. scented	Flasks.	31093	14535	12696	12231	26996	30408	23968	916	.....	.....
Weld	do.	.....	10	337	848	1571	4935	.....	294	.....	.....
Whalebone	do.	.....	150	225	209	176	127	78	37	.....	.....
White Lead	do.	9198	11859	7821	14732	13006	13099	7489	5744	9434	1136
Wines, Spanish and Portuguese	Pipes.	3492	3616	2092	2970	9750	10193	2739	1543	1639	3175
Do. French	Hhds.	5920	4946	3930	16144	12735	20343	6516	9449	11368	10340
Do. Rhenish	Anms.	71	411	1053	521	563	150	399	437	533	542
Do. in bottles	Bots.	141368	113690	123011	89242	130617	283378	116377	43347	59662	85961
Do. Champagne	do.	43845	121886*	109760	134997	302421	739141	116478	109409	372624	87463
Do. Rum, French Brandy, Arrack, Cherry, &c.	Ank.	7412	6440	10546	19542	151228	15872	352	299	129	2083
Wool, Logs	Pds.	196693	89160	126297	61473	125207	114766	119613	195896	238932	138529
Do. Ash	Ps.	911	563	1820	142	1163	406	475	756	1143	169
Do. Beech	do.	965	558	170	173	617	2934	3211	3168	304	72
Do. Wheel-felloes	Ps.	35361	26656	62596	58461	43702	36903	68319	107919	59850	33310
Do. Mahogany	Feet.	486327	468410	705681	351582	295783	30483 Pd.	11068 Pd.	25739 Pd.	21153 Pd.	23380 Pd.
Do. Pastic	Pd.	4923	12299	13668	12369	42198	24522	16979	78	23730	46313
Do. Dye, rasped	do.	5691	339	4504	1896	668	356	2269	1225	6167	12056
Do. St. Mart. and Brasil	do.	3792	.....	.....	.....	4546	1161	754	10455	784	1736
Do. Nicaragua	do.	55342	32910	28821	49117	29232	591	23669	31661	71868	46154
Do. Quassia	do.	147	23	194	498	36	3045	62	301	.....	.....
Do. Lignum Vitæ	do.	634	9234	9608	1670	.....	282	3795	.....	.....	.....
Do. Oak	do.	.....	.....	36	60	1397	43	219	.....	.....	.....
Do. Sassafras	Ps.	3073	70	78	179	116	74	1	99	.....	.....
Do. Ebony	Feet.	7469	34069	33397	27976	18839	108 Pd.	.....	92 Pd.	.....	.....
Wool Cards	Thous.	96	49	511	2030	120	4462	5562	3443	10123	10310
Woollens, as Flannel, Shalloon, Tollinet, Baize, Barracan, &c.	Ars.	422018	930004	1735584	1782932	1040035 Ps.	1000023 Ps.	40193 Ps.	54924 Ps.	105567 Ps.	12302 Ps.
Do. Cloths	do.	111695	475228	683408	360878	20128 „	33618 „	10006 „	5206 „	4230 „	3005 „
Do. do. Persian, in transitu	do.	.....	30000	265429	673236	19716 „	10719 „	.....	.....	.....	.....
Do. Kerseymere	do.	64394	144206	166263	153871	3971 „	4328 „	2304 „	1944 „	1360 „	1727 „
Do. Carpets	do.	22231	71312	30594	50515	12649 „	3103 „	1186 „	1007 „	453 „	1556 „
Do. Shawls	Pc.	.....	59	1479	3204	14812	21651	10174	12092	33063	17381
Do. Stockings	Dz.	367	4600	4344	1967	1368	2819	743	491	1208	1267
Do. Camlet	Ars.	15672	.....	.....	.....	.....	20167 Ps.	12963 Ps.	29024 Ps.	25686 Ps.	22464 Ps.
Do. Coverlets	Pc.	1362	4317	7968	14823	483	1024	7574	1292	2983	2473
Wool, raw	Pd.	12	90	.....	.....	.....	76	68	76	493	455
Do. yarn	do.	201	309	293	209	474	82	10	94	2120	1445

This Document, as will be observed from the date, I procured after my arrival in England.

ACCOUNT OF GOODS EXPORTED IN THE BRITISH SHIPS FROM ST. PETERSBURG, A[illegible]so 1822.

No. of Ships	To	Tar Last.	Old do.	Cargoes	HEMP Clean	HEMP Combed	HEMP Middlings	HEMP Codilla	FLAX 12 Head	FLAX 8 do.	FLAX Codilla	Tallow	Potashes	Hemlock	Isinglass	Hides	Bristles	Wool	Junk	Rags	Linseed	Hides	Sail cloth	Russia duck	Pieces	Bristol Wrought	Narrow do.	Bristol Linen	Bottlings	Crash	Quills	Russia Feathers	Cut Tallow	Leathers	Total
244	London	Pouds.																			Chests	Pieces				Arshs.									Pouds.
142	Hull	200[illegible]		19488	921[illegible]	36[illegible]	[illegible]		30[illegible]	6[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	21320	39901			99	99			14[illegible]	300	13[illegible]					46[illegible]
23	Liverpool	1[illegible]	3943		[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]		[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	3406	1658													1[illegible]
10	Bristol	[illegible]			[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]		[illegible]	[illegible]		[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]		4[illegible]													4[illegible]
4	Newcastle				[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]		[illegible]			[illegible]										2[illegible]													3[illegible]
4	Hull				[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]																											
4	Clyde				[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]																											
3	Yarmouth				[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]																											
4	Dundee				[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]																											
3	Aberdeen				[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]																											
2	Scotland				[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]																											
1	Exeter				[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]																											
1	Lancaster				[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]																											
1	Poole				[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]																											
1	Topsham				[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]																											
1	Barnstaple				[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]																											
1	Bridport				[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]																											
1	Falmouth				[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]																											
1	Sandgate				[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]																											
1	Hayle				[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]																											
1	Penzance	630			[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]																											
1	Plymouth				[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]																											
1	Portsmouth				[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]																											
1	Rochester				[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]																											
1	Seaham				[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]																											
1	Whitby				[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]																											
1	Whitehaven				[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]																											
1	Wellington				[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]																											
1	Wisbeach				[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]																											
1	Dover				[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]																											
42	Dublin																																	
34	Leith																																	
11	Grangemouth																																	
3	Kirkaldy																																	
4	Arbroath																																	
3	Inverness																																	
2	Cromarty																																	
2	Glasgow																																	
1	Greenock																																	
1	Peterhead																																	
1	Aberdeen																																	
1	Montrose																																	
1	Dumfries																																	
1	Saltfleet																																	
1	Cork																																	
3	Dublin																																	
1	Colerain																																	
1	Dundalk																																	
1	Waterford																																	
2	Jersey																																	
1	Lisbon																																	
1	Dunkirk																																	
1	Fayal																																	
1	Ballast																																	
334	British Ships	1[illegible]	3972	24[illegible]	3[illegible]	77[illegible]	102534	624	19[illegible]	47139	46222	1[illegible]	5[illegible]	4[illegible]	1[illegible]	1[illegible]	1[illegible]	3[illegible]	3[illegible]	1[illegible]	3[illegible]	3[illegible]	65	272	136	5[illegible]	2[illegible]	1[illegible]	2[illegible]	1[illegible]	3[illegible]	1[illegible]	1[illegible]	1[illegible]	3[illegible]
37	Americans	4[illegible]			[illegible]	[illegible]	3[illegible]	2[illegible]	[illegible]			1[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	4[illegible]	6[illegible]	2[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
397	Other Nations	4[illegible]		19[illegible]	1[illegible]	19[illegible]	1[illegible]	1[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
1074	Total	4[illegible]	3972	2[illegible]	3[illegible]	3[illegible]	3[illegible]	2[illegible]	2[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	2[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]

	Tongues	67	Pouds.	Raw Hides	343	Pieces.	Kharpovsky	1	Divs.			
	Salt	31	40	Napkins	100	—	Butter	1	—			
	Malmbitte	30	—	Candle Moulds	12	—	Furs	1	—			
	Copper Nails	3	—	Crash Bags	300	—	Squirrel Skins	1	—			
	Mahogany	11	—	Drillings	315	—	Tow	1	—			
	Mattresses	16	—	Hare	648	—	Wheat	1	—			
	Oatmeal	140	—	Deal Ends	3000	—	Drugs	20	Cases.			
	Glue	12	—	Bridals	500	—	Hides	2000	Hides.			
	Minerals	22	—	Empty Casks	3140	—	Empty Casks	100	—			
	Saltfish	12	—	Beans	2	—	Vinegar	9	Tons.			
	Sarsaparilla	20	—	Linen	352	Arshs.	Spars	303	Pieces.			
	Pitch	107	—	Wheat	250	Chets.	Running Deals	17715	—			
	Tar	1175	—	Glass Ware	10	Cases.	Rods	2	Cwts.			
	Shoe Skins	3650	Pieces.	Soldiers' Pieces	1	—	Divs.	7	Ends.			
	Calf do.	600	—	Minerals	2	—	Bed Sticks	1	Boat.			
	Goat do.	250	—	Gold Wastlets	1	—						
	Kid do.	240	—	Sundry Goods	4	—						
	Sheep do.	240	—	Dg. Skins	2	—						
	Lamb do.	1080	—	Drawings	2	—						

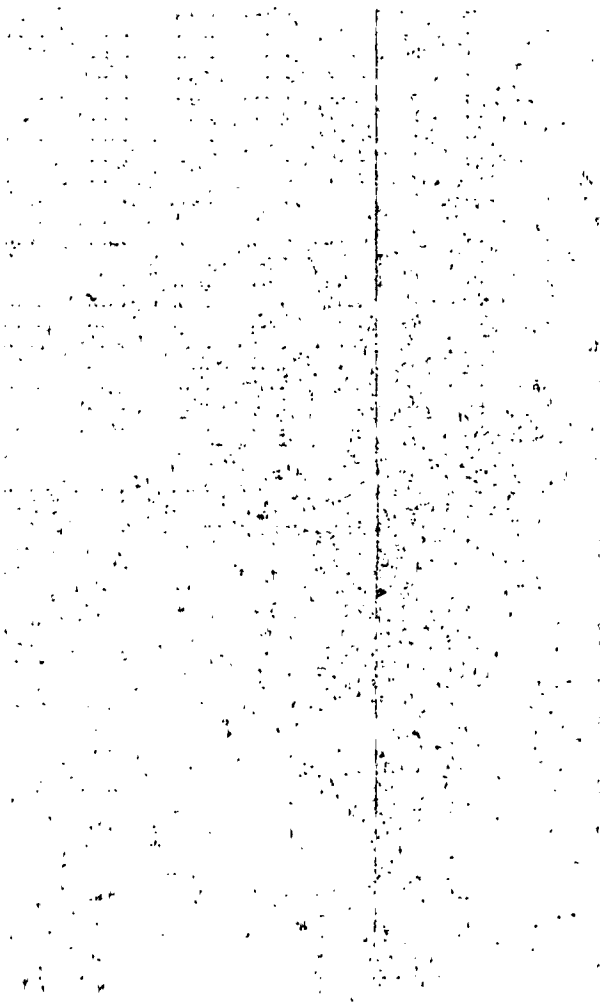
	Wheat	603	Chets.	Horse-hair	205	Pouds.	Rope	94	Pouds.			
	Narrow Linen	39993	Arshs.	Horse-nails	1729	—	Rhubarb	50	—			
	Huckaback	1051	—	Goat-hair	4662	—	Balsam Copaiva	155	—			
	Calf Skins	30051	Pieces.	Camel do.	239	—	Mace	17	—			
	Hide do.	16700	—	Furs	139	—	Anthimony	84	—			
	Window Glass	1020	Sheets.	Dittos	50	Pieces.	Wormseed	14	—			
				Feathers	235	Pouds.	Drugs	67	—			
				Down	40	—	Rice	345	—			
				Quills	107	—	Tea	9	—			
				Raw Hides	13164	—	Pearls	901	—			
				Sole Leather	293	—	Lignevel	103	—			
				Calf Skins	72	—	Dye Stuff	18	—			
				Hare do.	3017	—	Indigo	30	—			
				Astrand	1399	—	Anchor	7	—			
				Do. Oil	19	—	Varnish	1	—			
				Cossack	994	—	Silk	4	—			
				Liquorice	1616	—	Olive Oil	23	—			
				Gall-nuts	3960	—	Otterskins dito	10	—			
				Tobacco	140	—	Portable Soap	1	—			

	For London.			For Petersburg.			For Riga.			For Pernau.			By other Nations.																						
	Grips	3000	Pouds.	Oakum	315	Pouds.	Rapeseed Oil	226	Pouds.	For Sweden.			Wheat	603	Chets.	Horse-hair	205	Pouds.	Rope	94	Pouds.			
	Deckers	50	—				Tallow Candles	100	—				Narrow Linen	39993	Arshs.	Horse-nails	1729	—	Rhubarb	50	—			
	Leathers	30	—	For Dantzic.			Hare Skins	33310	Skins.				Huckaback	1051	—	Goat-hair	4662	—	Balsam Copaiva	155	—			
	Horse-nails	50	—							For Copal.			Calf Skins	30051	Pieces.	Camel do.	239	—	Mace	17	—			
	Rhubarb	150	—	Flax Yarn	66	—							Hide do.	16700	—	Furs	139	—	Anthimony	84	—			
	Candlewicks	124	—	Horse-nails	3	—				Flax Staves	3684	Staves.	Window Glass	1020	Sheets.	Dittos	50	Pieces.	Wormseed	14	—			
																Feathers	235	Pouds.	Drugs	67	—			
	For Hull.			For Leith.						By Americans.						Down	40	—	Rice	345	—			
	Flax Yarn	3[illegible]	—	Bolts	30	—				Flax Staves	11909	Pouds.				Quills	107	—	Tea	9	—			
	Feathers	47	—							Cordage	2[illegible]	—				Raw Hides	13164	—	Pearls	901	—			
	Bristles	136	—	For Cronstadt.						Cables	677	—				Sole Leather	293	—	Lignevel	103	—			
	Candlewicks	124	—	Horse-hair	15	—				Tallow Candles	2[illegible]	—				Calf Skins	72	—	Dye Stuff	18	—			
	Burgundy Pitch	624	—							Rapeseed Oil	1[illegible]	—				Hare do.	3017	—	Indigo	30	—			
	Masts and Spars	80	Pieces.	For Cronstadt.						Packers	2[illegible]	—				Astrand	1399	—	Anchor	7	—			
				Horse-hair	15	—				Deals	3	—				Do. Oil	19	—	Varnish	1	—			
	For Liverpool.									Hare Masts	2[illegible]	—				Cossack	994	—	Silk	4	—			
	Mast Yarn	1[illegible]	Pouds.	For Jersey.						Cartwheels	2[illegible]	—				Liquorice	1616	—	Olive Oil	23	—			
				Oakum	63	—				Oil	2[illegible]	—				Gall-nuts	3960	—	Otterskins dito	10	—			
	For Bolton.			Feathers	17	—				Soap	2[illegible]	—				Tobacco	140	—	Portable Soap	1	—			
	Masts and Spars	60	Pieces.	Horse-hair	63	—				Tobacco	2[illegible]	—												

CRONSTADT, December, 1822.

The Total of Exports and Imports to and from St. Petersburg in 1822, was ..... { EXPORTS ..... 234,700,304½ Roubles. IMPORTS ..... 182,716,307 do.

JOHN BOOKER AND SON.



porters. An *artel* is composed of two or three score of stout, dexterous, and trusty fellows, who elect a chief from their body, after whom the company is named. Every *artelschtschik*, in order to admission, must be proposed and elected by the rest, and then give sufficient security for six or seven hundred rubles, in consideration whereof the *artel* is responsible for all damages and breaches of trust committed by its members; but the latter, to their honour be it said, as with our ticket-porters, are seldom known to occur with them.

Every morning, particularly opposite the Kazan church, an amazing number of persons are to be seen waiting for employment either as mechanics or labourers; the former are distinguished by an axe stuck in their belt, a tool with which a Russian performs wonders. These people are said to congregate and pass the night in subterranean abodes, near and under the hay-market, where they have little better accommodation than swine. Their daily food is of the most loathsome kind to any other than a common Russian palate, consisting of *schtchi*, or sour cabbage soup, *kascha*, a thick porridge of millet or other grain, *snitki*, a small dried fish not unlike white-bait, *beluga*, a coarse fish of the tunny species, *peroghi*, pies filled with meat or eggs, and red turnips, mushrooms and the like, all dressed in linseed and hemp oil, or rancid butter. The pickled cucumber is never omitted at a Russian dinner, whether of high or low degree, nor is the dram to

commence with; after which, the liquors in common life are *quass*, an acidulous, cooling, wholesome, and in warm weather, not unpleasant drink—in summer it is cooled with ice; *klukra* which is extracted from the cranberry, and *sibten* which is made of honey, pepper, and water boiled; this last is to be found for sale by *sbitenschickas* at the corner of almost every street; beer is also to be had, but it is not in general use amongst the lower classes. In higher life, the national liquors are *vishnefca* and *malinofca*, both wines made from the cherry juice and fermented; *kislischtschi*, a superior sort of *quass;* champagne of the Don is said to be common in the south, but is rarely met with here. Foreign wines of every description, of the best quality, are abundant, and by no means dear—a particular kind of champagne is prepared in France for the Russian market; it is much sweeter than that in general use, the Russians are great admirers of it, and drink it in large quantities. English or Swedish porter is also common. The tables of the rich are served with luxury, and generally in the French style, with the exception of the dram or glass of liqueur, and relish of dried meats or caviar, which are never omitted about ten minutes before the dinner is announced.

Caviar, or the roe of sturgeon, is in general use, and when fresh, considered a great luxury. It is sent from the shores of the Caspian and Azof Seas in a prepared state, but with the first of the frost some is sent up fresh; the first arrived this

season on the 6th December, new style, and was sold at three rubles the pound—it is generally eaten on toast with pepper, precisely as we do marrow, which it resembles a good deal in flavour. The dealers sometimes wash the old, and attempt to sell it for fresh, but the deception can be easily detected by putting it in water, or on white paper, on neither of which, with the fresh, is there any oily appearance, whereas the prepared contains much oleaginous matter.

The fruit-shops are tastefully arranged, and contain every kind, both of native and exotic fruit: the quantity of apples imported from Rostock and Stetten almost exceeds belief; on our first arrival we saw several galleots laden with them, as we see coasters with potatoes in England.

Oysters are perhaps the dearest article of luxury for the gourmand; they are usually brought by our merchant-vessels, and not unfrequently, in a far from fresh or pure state. Notwithstanding this, they are sold for a ruble a-piece, and, what is more extraordinary, are eaten with avidity, not only by the natives, but I am sorry to say by some of our compatriots, whose tastes have become sufficiently vitiated to follow or set the example.

Tradesmen's shops in general do not make much show, as the houses are let in flats, and they usually occupy the second, where they have a general or extensive apartment. For example, a stranger might remain here for ever, without knowing, from

observation, that there is an English bazaar, where every article of use or luxury may be procured: the sale is immense, and the fortunes made by the different proprietors are great and rapid: the whole is served and conducted exclusively by Englishmen. There is also another shop on a similar plan, but on a much smaller scale, kept by two English quakers.

The city is extremely badly off for booksellers, most of whom are Germans; but an intelligent Frenchman, by the name of Pluchard, takes the lead. He publishes the only French paper, under the title of *Le Conservateur Impartiel*, a title, by-the-by, the police take good care it shall not merit; however he does all he can for the propagation of news and knowledge. His circulating library is as extensive as the prohibitory system will permit. He lately went to considerable expense and trouble in the compilation of a St. Petersburg Directory, but was given to understand that the use of it was not required. Just before our arrival, his strong box had been, with extraordinary violence, forced open and plundered of a considerable amount, although he had watchmen in the house; and little doubt can be entertained of their connivance, yet their measures have been so artfully taken, that it cannot be brought home to them, and he is a great loser. We invariably found him civil, honest, and obliging, without two prices, which in this country is a blessing rarely met with. The descent from an original demand is often extraordinary and annoying. I am

willing to attribute it more to custom than villany, because I have never detected them in any thing like fraud in the quality of their goods, or in subsequent delivery, with both of which they are so frequently charged by foreigners: on the contrary I have always found in them a desire to give satisfaction, and after I had reflected, and got over what I considered their first attempt at extortion, I generally parted from them mutually satisfied. The equanimity of my temper was certainly a little disturbed the other day in the Gastennoi-dvor, by a fellow taking twelve rubles for some lithographic costumes, which, in the first instance, he declared he could not sell for one copeck under thirty. Prints are extremely scarce, as talent receives little or no encouragement. Bonner, a Frenchman, executed a most beautiful set of engravings of the Imperial Family, from the father of Peter the Great down to the youngest of Paul's children, which he could not, at a very moderate profit, sell under two hundred and thirty rubles, at which price they were remarkably cheap, for they are pronounced by good judges to be perfect *chefs-d'œuvre;* yet so little has he been encouraged, and so many remain on his hands, that he was glad to let me have a set elegantly bound for one hundred rubles, and which he considered a God-send, it having been so long since he had sold a copy. It is often the fate of genius and ability to meet with neglect in life but to have justice done to their works by posterity, and I have

little doubt that it will be the case with M. Bonner, and that some fifty years hence these engravings will be sought after with as much avidity as they are now treated with indifference. By the kindness of one of the directors, we have been allowed to select twenty out of the series of three hundred medals which we saw at the mint, for the set is seldom broken in upon. It is only justice to say, that, upon every occasion, we have met with a disposition in every department to be civil and obliging to us. On our first arrival, we were introduced to the celebrated Commodore Golownin, who suffered a three years captivity in Japan (daily in expectation of being sacrificed, and often totally deprived of hope). We received from him, without any ostentatious professions, the friendly offices which are rarely bestowed upon foreigners, but which you might expect from a man who could write such sentiments as the following, after three years' captivity, with the full expectation that they were to seal his doom for ever:—

"Where the honour of my sovereign and the interests of my country are concerned, I do not set the value of a copeck on my life; do not, therefore, take my safety into consideration. Be it now, or ten or twenty years hence, sooner or later, we must all pay the debt of nature. It is immaterial to me whether I die in battle or by the hand of treachery; whether I perish amidst waves of the sea, or yield my last breath on a bed of down; death is always

death, though he may present himself under a variety of forms." These were written on the occasion of the Japanese wishing to exact some derogatory terms from Captain Rekord, who had been sent to endeavour to effect the release of the commodore. It was subsequently effected, and he is now enjoying the reward of his honourable conduct, by holding a principal situation in the marine, and standing high in the estimation and confidence of the emperor.

On his return from Japan, he called at Otahetie, and went on shore to pay his respects to the king, who received him, dressed in the full uniform of a captain in the British navy, which had been given him by Captain Gordon of the Cornwallis, and he carried the regimentals of a major-general in his hand; the latter had been sent to him by our king. As soon as the introduction was over, he resumed his native dress, saying the other was too precious to be spoiled.

The commodore told us a curious anecdote of the quarrel between the eccentric Lydiard and the vacant Billings. They had both served with Cooke; the former as corporal of marines, and the latter as a boy. Billings wished at Kamtchatka to pass off as having been a lieutenant with our immortal circumnavigator; this Lydiard denied, and words at length running high, the latter said, "I was a corporal, and you only a boy, therefore I am your superior officer, and desire you will pay me proper respect." Their quarrel became irreconcilable, in-

trigue ensued, science suffered, and the expedition was rendered abortive.

We have just heard that Captain Cochrane's resolution of making a tour of the globe has succumbed at the shrine of love, the goddess being in the shape of a child of nature, the uneducated daughter of a sexton in Kamtchatka, whom he has married, and means to educate according to his own notions of unsophisticated simplicity and perfect innocence. I fear he has lightly undertaken a doubtful task, and one, in which, if he does not succeed, his future happiness and respectability will be inevitably lost.

We have here at this moment another eccentric, English, naval officer as a traveller, but who excites much interest, not only from his infirmity (total deprivation of sight), but also from his general intelligence, fortitude, resignation, and independence. He is much and deservedly noticed, and has, I believe, formed the romantic notion of also making the tour of the globe. How far he will succeed, it is impossible to say; under any circumstances it is a task of extreme difficulty, and has never yet, I believe, been accomplished, including Asia and America; but I have no hesitation in pronouncing, that Mr. Holman, deprived of sight, is capable of doing more from his own intelligence, perseverance, and good sense, than many people with the faculty of vision who pretend to be explorers. He has even here the power of being useful to a friend who is exceedingly deaf, and thus they are of mutual

benefit, and may be considered as the Pylades and Orestes of Petersburg. Addressing the deaf man in the chapel the other day, I could not make myself understood, when Holman, who had his arm, said, "I will tell him when we get out what you have said; poor fellow, he is quite deaf, and very much to be pitied."

I believe I have before noticed an odd custom in this country, of presenting diamond rings, *&c.*, instead of payment, in many cases for services performed; and as they have a certain value set upon them, they are equivalent to so much money, into which they are turned without the slightest delicacy; and to such a length is it carried by the government, that there is an establishment called the Imperial Cabinet, where articles of all descriptions and value are deposited, such as furs, rings, snuff-boxes, swords, crosses, *&c.*, with an assessed value in money attached to each, which is much more than the articles would fetch in the market, or by private sale. Therefore, when the emperor wishes, or is advised to reward a person, he sends an order to the director of the cabinet to present him an article of a certain value; and it is by no means uncommon, or at all considered indelicate or an insult to the crown, for the person receiving it to return it within a few days, and to request to have the assessed value in money, so that the same articles are issued and re-issued frequently, and sometimes to the same person. An English physician showed

us seven hundred pounds' worth of rings and boxes which he had received from various families, but which he had too much English independence and pride to turn into money. Since 1814, the frequency of the emperor's visits to foreign countries is said to have been a severe burden upon the exchequer.

The Lombard is an establishment connected with the foundling hospital; that is to say, its profits are for the benefit of that establishment. In other words, it is the *Mont-de-Piété* of France, or pawnbrokers of England, only it is attached to the foundling hospital. It lends on gold or silver three-fourths of the value, on other metals half; and on jewels, clothes, furs, *&c.*, such proportions as are thought reasonable, yet never below ten, or above a thousand rubles. The value of the property brought is appraised by sworn taxers or assessors. The money is lent for short periods, or at most, for a year. The pledgers are allowed, for repayment, only three weeks' grace, after the expiration of the term. After this time, the pawns are sold by public auction, from the proceeds whereof the proprietor faithfully receives back all that may exceed the loan, interest, and expenses. I attended one of the sales, and thought the articles fetched a very high price. Money may also be deposited there at regular interest.

The Loan Bank is more extensive, and of greater importance to the nobility and towns, *&c.* It owes its rise to the benevolence of Catharine II., who,

in 1786, made a deposit of thirty-six millions of rubles, in order to be lent out on adequate security at five per cent. interest. This accommodation is often of the greatest use in times of unexpected distress by failure of crops or of speculations; it answers its intended purpose, that of relieving subjects, and producing an annual revenue to the state.

When the weather is clear and mild, say from two to six degrees below freezing, the quays and Nevski Perspective present a gay scene, in consequence of the numerous pedestrians both male and female. It is not unusual in one morning to meet at different times the whole of the imperial family unattended by guards: the emperor returns every salute by touching his hat in the military style. We met the Grand Duke Michael yesterday, who asked if we had intended to visit his school *sans cérémonie*. We were obliged to acknowledge that our time, since his kind permission, had been too much occupied, and that now our departure would so soon take place, as to render it impossible. He seemed to feel disappointed, but wished us a *bon voyage* with much kindness. He has the gruffest voice for a young man that I have ever heard. It is said he is soon to be married; they are now building a very extensive palace for him, in a secluded situation near the summer gardens, which will be a *rus in urbe*, for although it is completely in the town, it is so sheltered or secluded by trees, as not to be perceptible from any street.

The Grand Duke Constantine is expected every day from Warsaw, and we regret much that we shall not have an opportunity of seeing him. His character has been notorious in the world, and has met with, I believe, general reprobation; yet here it is confidently reported, that he has had the good sense to see his errors, and to amend them, and even to be so far impressed with his former folly, as to offer most excellent advice to his brothers, as to their conduct. It is said that he is now rather a favourite wherever he has an opportunity of being personally known; but of course it will be extremely difficult to remove the existing prejudice in remote parts of the empire. The following circumstance I have heard vouched for as having made the first favourable impression on his disposition.

When carrying on every act of government with rigour and despotism in Poland, two noblemen obtained a private audience, and told him exactly how the country felt towards him, and that, in all probability, a revolt would be the consequence. They finished by saying, they knew that, after what they had communicated, it was useless to expect forgiveness at his hands, but that they preferred the good of their country to every other consideration; and to convince him they were only actuated by it, pulled out a pair of pistols, saying, "How easy could we sacrifice you! but no, we sacrifice ourselves, in hopes that this devotion may work a change in your conduct towards our unhappy

country," and immediately shot themselves dead. It had the desired effect, and he has ever since been improving in conduct. He has been divorced from the sister of Prince Leopold, with, it is said, sufficient cause from her infidelity, though, on the other hand, it must be allowed, that his behaviour towards her was such as to disgust her, and justify on her part any other conduct except the violation of the marriage vow, which ever ought to be held inviolable. He has since been married to a Polish lady with the consent of the emperor, under, however, a Ukaz, which prohibits the issue of the marriage from ever, under any circumstances, succeeding to the throne of Russia. But the same despotic power which enables Alexander to issue the Ukaz, will enable Constantine, if he becomes emperor, to rescind it. The ground of the prohibition is said to be, that feuds have always crept into the imperial family from Polish marriages. Constantine is reported to be devoted to his present wife, and it is asserted that they set an example of conjugal fidelity and happiness to all around them. The Polish ladies have certainly a very great advantage over the Russian in point of beauty, and are therefore frequently preferred by the men in marriage, which causes no small degree of jealousy and envy on the part of the Russian fair sex. Whether it may be to act as foils, or what, I cannot ascertain, but a singular custom exists in many Russian families, of having Kalmuc, Tartar, or other hideous children as in-

mates, and not unfrequently deformed persons, or dwarfs. The lady of an officer of the highest rank, who lives opposite my window, never stirs out in her carriage without being accompanied by a dwarf, who, unlike the generality of them, is perfectly well made and proportioned. Before I was aware of the circumstance, I had frequently seen him in the morning, outside of the gate, playing with or teasing dogs, when I thought him a remarkably strong and bold child, of about five years' old. I afterwards found that he was five-and-twenty, and of an extremely vain and proud disposition. Apropos of dogs, they are not allowed to run loose about the streets, all found so are lawful prizes to the police, who sometimes have a regular hunt after them, when a net is spread entirely across a street, and the poor animals drawn into it; some escape, and ever afterwards are dreadfully alarmed at the sight of a police-man. Why dogs are so persecuted at a season when there cannot be any dread of hydrophobia, I have been unable to learn.

Having taken leave of all our friends, and prepared every thing for the journey, we are to start to-morrow at noon, in our carriage, mounted on a sledge, as during the Revel trip, for the far-famed Moscow. Our *séjour* of one hundred and forty-six days has been pleasant, and not devoid of interest. We shall leave some friends with much regret, as at their hands we have received great kindness and civility.

I cannot do better than to conclude my communications from this modern capital of Russia, by giving you the following statistical data and tabular statements, the results of my personal experience and immediate inquiries.

Meteorological Observations, continued from page 424, up to the day of our departure from St. Petersburg for Moscow.

8 A.M. 1822.	Faren.	State of Wind and Weather.
N. S.	°	
December 24	+ 11/16	26° difference in the course of the twenty-four hours. Wind North.
25	20	Cloudy; a little snow.
26	18/29	Westerly.
27	30	Hazy.
28	23	,,
29	28	Westerly.
30	26	,,
31	30	,, Hazy.
1823.		
January 1	28	Hazy.
2	18	Little snow.
3	10	,,
4	14	,,
5	23	,,
6	23	Hazy.
7	21	Little snow.
8	21	Strong wind and unpleasant weather.
9	28	Sleet
10	19	N.E. Clear sun out for the first time since Christmas-day.
11	8	Snow in the night.
12	16	A little snow.
13	27	,,
14	14	East, little snow.
15	−4	Easterly, very cold.
16	7	S.E, moderate.
17	0	West.
18	6	S.E.
19	6	,,
20	6	,,
21	4	,,
22	2	Westerly.
23	0	,,
24	+4	,,
25	18	,,

8 A.M. 1828.	Faren.	State of Wind and Weather.
N. S.		
January 26	+18 Reaum.	Snow thick.
27	−11	"
28	11	"
29	11	"
30	10	N.E., cold.
31	11	Snow.
February 1	11	Snow, N.E.
2	15	Much wind.
3	13	Strong gale.
4	16	"
5	15	Less wind.
6	18	Easterly.
7	18	"
8	18	Moderate.
9	8	Strong cold wind, west.
10	14	"
11	9	Snow.
12	13	S.E.
13	4	Snow, west.
14	0	"
15	0	"
16	− 2	"
17	2	East.
18	6	"
19	5	"
20	8	"
21	7	"
22	5	Snow.
23	2	"
24	5	"

PRICE OF PROVISIONS, &c. AT PETERSBURG IN 1822.

Beef, fresh, the poud, of 36 pounds English, 5 to 8 rub.
—— frozen, ditto, 4 to 6 rub.
Veal, fresh, the pound, 60 cop. to 1 rub.
Mutton, fresh, the pound, 25 to 40 cop.
Pork, fresh, the pound, 25 to 40 cop.
Ham, cured, the pound, 40 to 60 cop.
Geese, frozen, per couple, 7 rub.
Ducks, frozen, per couple, 4 rub.
Fowls, frozen, per pair, 2 rub. 50 cop. to 3 rub.
Turkeys, frozen, per pair, 7 rub.
Pigeons, frozen, per pair, 2 rub. 25 cop.
Rabbits, fresh, per couple, 4 rub. 50 cop.
Hares, fresh, per couple, 3 rub. to 4 rub. 50 cop.
Eggs, per dozen, 1 rub.
Milk, per bottle, 25 to 40 cop.
Butter, Colonist, per pound, 1 rub. 25 cop. to 1 rub. 50 cop.
——— Russian, per pound, 50 to 65 cop.
——— Finland, per pound, 50 to 80 cop.
Cheese, per poud, 32 rub.

Fish*.

Sequ, each, 80 cop. to 2 rub.
Soudoc, per pound, 60 cop. to 1 rub. 20 cop.
Salmon, per pound, 80 cop. to 1 rub.
——— Trout, per pound, 1 rub. 40 cop. to 2 rub.
White Fish, frozen, per pound, 1 rub. to 1 rub. 50 cop.
Nalema, frozen, per pound, 30 to 40 cop.
Beluga, frozen, per pound, 60 to 80 cop.
Eels, each, 1 rub. 50 cop. to 2 rub.
Sturgeon, per pound, 1 to 2 rub.

* In winter, when frozen, ½ to ⅔ less,

Perch, each, 50 cop. to 1 rub.
Smelts (10), 1 to 25 cop.
Pike, per pound, 30 to 40 cop.
Lasher, per pound, 70 cop. to 1 rub.
Carp, per pound, 40 to 50 cop.
Craw-fish, river, per 100, 3 to 6 rub.
Cod (from the White Sea), per pound, frozen, 50 to 90 cop.
Turbot (from the White Sea), per pound, frozen, 90 cop. to 1 rub. 50 cop.
Salmon, Red and White, per pound, frozen, 70 cop. to 1 rub.
Caviar, fresh, per pound, 2 to 4 rub.

GAME*.

Rapchicks, per pair, 1 rub. 50 cop. to 2 rub.
Herapatka, per pair, 2 rub. 50 cop. to 3 rub.
Black Cock, per pair, 3 rub. 50 cop. to 4 rub. 50 cop.
Cock of the Wood, per pair, 5 rub. 50 cop. to 6 rub. 50 cop.
Snipes, double, per pair, 2 to 4 rub.
Woodcocks, 4 rub. to 4 rub. 50 cop.

MISCELLANEOUS.

Oil, Florence, per flask, 1 rub. 75 cop.
Vinegar, per gallon, 2 rub. 20 cop.
Beer, Russian, per barrel, 25 rub.
—— English, per barrel, 85 rub.
Brandy, Cognac, per anker, 90 to 165 rub.
Rum, West-India, per anker, 75 to 110 rub.
Tea, per pound, 5 to 25 rub.
Coffee, per poud, 55 to 80 rub.
Sugar, raw, per poud, 18 to 27 rub.
———, refined, per poud, 32 to 44 rub.
Potatoes, per cool, 8 rub.
Wheat Flour, per poud, 6 to 7 rub.
Oats, per cool, 13 to 16 rub.
Salt, per poud, 2 rub. 25 cop.
Candles, tallow, per poud, 13 to 17 rub.

* Much cheaper and abundant when the sledge-roads are good.

Candles, wax, per poud, 80 to 84 rub.
Wood, per fathom, 7 to 14 rub.
Charcoal, per cool, 1 rub. 80 cop.
Tobacco, Russian, per pound, 1 rub.
———-, Foreign, per pound, 2 rub.

WINE.

Portugal, per pipe, 1000 to 1800 rub.
Chateau Margot, per barrel, 500 to 1000 rub.
Medoc, per barrel, 250 to 450 rub.
Madeira, per barrel, 800 to 1700 rub.
Champagne, per case of 50 bottles, 300 to 480 rub.
Rhine, per bottle, 6 to 25 rub.
Hungarian, per bottle, Tokay, 20 to 30 rub.

Servant, per Month, without keep, 15 to 40 rub.
Coachman, per Month, without keep, 40 rub.
Cook, per Month, without keep, 20 to 60 rub.
Keep of a horse, per Month, 75 rub.
Hire of two carriage-horses, per Month, 300 rub.
——— Carriage and four horses, per Month, 500 rub.

Such of the Russian peasantry as are slaves of the proprietors, are bought and sold with the lands which they cultivate, and are bound either to work three days a week for their master, in return for the fields granted them for their own subsistence, or to pay him an annual sum, which is called an Obrok. This he has it in his power to levy, and to proportion the amount to the different circumstances of individuals, according as they are prosperous, or otherwise; some of these slaves are settled in cities, and are worth immense wealth; the masters preferring a high Obrok to a large sum paid down for manumission.

TABLES OF RUSSIAN MEASURES, WEIGHTS, AND MONEY.

MEASURES.

The Archine	is	28 inches, English,
„ Sajène	„	7 feet,
„ Verst	„	⅔ mile.

WEIGHTS.

The Solotnick	is	6 grains,
Three ditto	are	1 lot,
Thirty-two lots	„	1 pound,
Thirty-six pounds	„	1 poud,
One Chetvert	is	5 bushels,
Ten ditto	„	1 cool,

MONEY.

4 Polusca	—	1 copeck,
2 Dengas	—	1 ditto,
5 Copecks	—	1 partash,
100 Copecks	—	1 ruble.

A paper ruble, according to rate of exchange,	is	10 pence,
Silver ruble, formerly,	was	4 shillings,
Two Silver rubles and 25 copecks	„	1 gold ducat.

But gold is now never seen, and silver very rarely, except pieces of from ten to eighty copecks, which are extremely useful in posting.

AN ACCOUNT OF THE SHIPPING AT PETERSBURG IN 1817.

	Wintered from 1816.	Arrived				Sailed.	Wintering.
		With Whole Cargoes.	With Part Cargoes.	In Ballast.	In all.		
English . .	6	205	65	471	741	736	11
American .	..	26	7	18	51	50	1
Bremen . .	..	1	4	22	27	27	..
Hamburg .	..	4	4	7	15	15	1
Hanoverian	1	4	2	35	41	46	..
Spanish . .	..	4	..	..	4	4	..
Dantzick .	..	1	1	3	5	5	..
Dutch . .	3	14	20	56	90	92	..
Danish . .	6	14	19	41	74	78	2
Lubeck . .	10	49	3	17	69	73	8
Mecklenburg	..	2	2	45	49	49	..
Norwegian	..	13	4	24	41	40	1
Oldenburg .	..	3	5	11	19	19	..
Portuguese	..	8	..	..	8	8	..
Prussian .	..	17	16	198	231	227	3
Pappenberg	..	1	..	..	1	1	..
Russian . .	13	17	4	20	41	38	8
Rostock .	1	7	3	30	40	41	..
Stralsund .	..	..	..	2	2	2	..
French . .	..	14	4	2	20	19	1
Swedish . .	..	32	10	91	133	132	1
Total	40	436	173	1093	1702	1702	37
In 1816 there arrived only .					861		
Increase in 1817					841		

N.B. Among the English ships noted as having arrived with whole cargoes, there were about twenty that brought cloth for the Russian government, and for which no duty was paid; two ships were lost, but the cargoes were saved; nine ships with goods bound to this port are obliged to winter at Revel, and the goods to be sent up hither by land.

EXPORTS FROM THE CHIEF PORTS OF RUSSIA IN THE YEARS 1816 AND 1817.

Ports.	Number of Ships.		Value of Exports.	
	1816	1817	1816	1817
			Rubles.	Rubles.
Archangel . .	176	376	8,689,090	18,401,104
Petersburg and Narva . . .	1200 64	1300 52	78,066,729 364,850	103,823,530 301,625
Revel	56	80	213,269	545,541
Riga	937	1763	27,759,893	65,764,226
Liebau . . .	236	261	1,787,518	1,774,306
Odessa . . .	843	977	37,717,725	41,956,681
Theodosia . .	89	260	1,102,420	4,009,331
Taganrog . .	131	388	3,070,991	10,101,614
Bukinsk . . .	161	182	8448	25,357

Return of all Vessels which Arrived at the Port of Archangel in the Year 1820.			
Flag.	No. of Vessels.	Tons.	Crew.
British . . .	186	36,633	1773
Russian . . .	8	2971	128
Danish . . .	6	1144	65
Dutch . . .	6	988	49
Hanover . . .	5	962	42
Hamburg . . .	5	1694	75
American . . .	4	647	33
Prussian . . .	3	546	21
Bremen . . .	3	594	27
Swedish . . .	4	592	35
Rostock . . .	3	480	22
Mecklenburg . .	1	212	8
Total . .	234	47,463	2278

A List of Articles either absolutely prohibited, or permitted to enter the Russian Empire, duty free, according to the Tarif of the 12th March, 1822.

This document is curious and important, as it shows what articles Russia imagines she can do without, or can supply without foreign aid, and what she deems absolutely necessary to her. From this, a tolerably good inference may be drawn of the supposed state of Russian manufactures, *&c.*, as well as of the policy of government with respect to their support, and to the improvement of the national resources.

Agates montées, avec ornemens bronzes, et autres semblables	*Défendu.*
Aimant (pierres à)	*Franc.*
Albâtre ouvré, avec ornemens en bronze, ou en d'autres métaux	*Défendu.*
Albums, ou livres en papier blanc ou coloré	,,
Ambre jaune monté	,,
Amidon blanc	,,
——— bleu	,,
Arbres en plantes	*Franc.*
Argent plaqué ou haché (ouvrages de toute sorte en)	*Défendu.*
Assignations de Banque de Russie	,,
Avelanèdes (capsules de glands de chêne)	*Franc.*
Balais de bouleau et autres communs	*Défendu.*
Baromètres	*Franc.*
Bas de peaux de chamois et guêtres	*Défendu.*
Bêtes tuées, savoir, sangliers, cerfs, élans, ours, et autres de ce genre	*Franc.*
Beurre de vache et de brebis	*Défendu.*
Bimbeloterie, savoir, objets divers destinés à servir de joujoux aux enfans	,,
Orge perlé, et toute sorte de gruaux, nommés Manne	,,
Bois exotiques ouvrés	,,
—— ouvrages de charpenterie de tout genre	,,

Bois, ouvrages de menuiserie, excepté ceux nommés séparément . . . . . *Défendu.*
—— ouvrages au tour, non-dénommés . . „
—— ouvrages de sculpture et gravure non-dénommés „
—— de chauffage en buches, ou fagots, (by ports in the Black Sea, and Sea of Azof only) . *Franc.*
—— osier et roseaux pour vannerie . . „
—— commun, pour la bâtisse (Black Sea and Azof only) . . . . . „
Boissons distillées:—
———— schrum . . . . *Défendu.*
———— liqueurs, ratafias, et toutes sortes d'infusions spiritueuses . . . . „
———— Kirschwasser . . . . „
———— eau-de-vie et esprit de grains édulcorés, ou non-édulcorés, comme aussi eau-de-vie de genièvre . . . „
Boissons fermentées:—
———— hydromel et vin de cérises . . „
———— vinaigre de bierre . . . „
———— bierre et cidre . . . . „
Bonnets de tricots non-dénommés . . „
——— à poil . . . . . „
——— ou casquettes de toute sorte non-dénommés „
Borax purifié et raffiné . . . . . „
Boules de terre à l'usage des raffineries de sucre . *Franc.*
Bourses tricotées, et autres, de toute sorte . *Défendu.*
Boutons d'habits et gilets de toute sorte . . „
Bretelles . . . . . „
Briques (Black Sea and Azof) . . . *Franc.*
Broderies de toute sorte . . . *Défendu.*
Bronze (ouvrages en) . . . . „

Cabarets de toute sorte . . . . „
Cacao, broyé et en pâte . . . . „
Cadres de miroirs, tableaux, estampes de toute sorte . „
Cages d'oiseaux de toute sorte, vides . . „
Cannes, bambous, ou bâtons montés ou non-montés . „
——— nommés rotins ou rovanges, grands roseaux à l'usage des tisserands et d'autres métiers . *Franc.*

Carcasses pour ouvrages de modes, savoir, fil de fer recouvert . . . . . *Défendu.*
Cardes à carder de toute sorte . . . *Franc.*
Carillons dans des cachets, tabatières, et autres boîtes *Défendu.*
Cartes géographiques . . . . *Franc.*
Castoreum . . . . . *Défendu.*
Cendres de bois non lessivées . . . *Franc.*
——— de plomb, ou scories . . . *Défendu.*
——— d'orfèvre . . . . *Franc.*
Champignons, secs . . . . *Défendu.*
Chandelles de suif . . . . ,,
——— de spermaceti . . . ,,
Chapeaux de feutre, fins et communs . . ,,
——— de cuir et vernissés . . . ,,
——— d'écorce et sparterie de soie . . ,,
Charbon de bois et de terre . . . *Franc.*
Chardons cardières . . . . ,,
Chaussure de toute sorte ; savoir, toute sorte d'ouvrage de cordonnerie . . . . *Défendu.*
Chevaux . . . . . *Franc.*
——— ânes, ânesses, chameaux, et mulets . . ,,
Chicorée séchée . . . . . *Défendu.*
——— torréfiée et moulue . . . ,,
Chiffons de toute sorte . . . . *Franc.*
Chocolat de toute sorte . . . . *Défendu.*
Ciment . . . . . *Franc.*
Cirage pour bottes, *&c.*, ... *Défendu.*
Cire jaune . . . . . ,,
—— bougies, cierges, *&c.* . . . . ,,
—— blanche et coloriée . . . ,,
—— ——— bougies, *&c.* . . . ,,
—— à cacheter . . . . . ,,
Clinquant, et tout ouvrage de ce genre . . ,,
Coffrets . . . . . ,,
Confitures, toute espèce de fruits confits dans du sirop de sucre, *&c.* . . . . . ,,
——— compôtes et marmelades, *&c.* . . ,,
——— sèches . . . . . ,,
Corail brut, ou taillé, c'est à dire, en morceaux et non percé . . . . . *Franc.*

Corail monté en toute sorte d'ouvrage . . *Défendu.*
——— en poudre . . . . . „
Corbeilles et corbillons d'osier, de paille, *&c.* . . „
Cordage de toute sorte . . . . . „
Cordons, cordonnets, et ficelles, *&c.* . . . „
Cornes et sabots (ouvrage de toute sorte en) . „
Coton en laine . . . . . *Franc.*
Cotonnades, toute sorte d'étoffes mêlées de laine, de chanvre ou de lin . . . . *Défendu.*
——— mouchoir de mitcale, de percale, et de calencors . . . . . „
——— étoffes et autres fabricats de cotons brodés avec des dessins blancs . . . „
——— les mêmes étoffes et fabricats teints d'une même couleur . . . . „
——— nankins de toute sorte . . . „
——— mouchoirs brodés en blanc . . „
——— les mêmes teints d'une seule couleur . „
——— toute sorte d'étoffes de coton imprimées „
——— toutes les cotonnades et mi-cotonnades rayés à carreaux . . . . „
——— toutes les cotonnades ou mi-cotonnades, sans exception, avec or et argent fins et faux . . . . . „
——— toutes les cotonnades et les ouvrages en coton collés et doublés . . „
Couleurs importées dans des boîtes de bois, avec ornemens en fer blanc, de papier-mâché, et autres qui sont prohibées . . . . . „
Couperose purifiée . . . . . „
Couvertures brodées de toute sorte . . . . „
Creusets de fonte de toute espèce, ainsi que pots d'argile pour formes . . . . *Franc.*
Crins de cheval . . . . . „
Cristal de roche monté . . . . *Défendu.*
Cuirs bruts . . . . . *Franc.*
—— peaux de lièvre . . . . . „
—— préparés, peaux mégies, *&c.*, chamoisées, marroquinées, et peaux de Turquie . . *Défendu.*
—— zouftés de toute sorte . . . . „

Cuirs, peaux de toute sorte tannées ou courroyées . *Défendu.*
—— toute sorte d'ouvrages en peaux et cuirs non-dénommés . . . . „
Cure-dents et cure-oreilles de toute sorte . „

Décorations d'ordres chevaleresques de toute sorte . „
Dentelles d'or, d'argent fins et faux . . „
Dents d'éléphant, *&c.*, travaillées de toute sorte . „
Diamans et brillans, et toute sorte de pierres précieuses non-montées . . . . *Franc.*
—— montés . . . . *Défendu.*
Drilles de toute sorte propres à fabriquer le papier . *Franc.*
Duvet de toute espèce d'oiseaux . . . *Défendu.*
—— de castors, et de toute espèce d'animaux sauvages . . . . . *Franc.*

Eaux de senteur dans des flacons avec ornemens . *Défendu.*
Ecailles de tortue montées . . . „
Ecorces à tan de chêne, *&c.* . . . *Franc.*
Ecume de mer ouvrée et montée . . . *Défendu.*
Email en gateaux et en poudre . . . *Franc.*
—— ouvrages d' . . . . *Défendu.*
Embarcations en état de servir, avec le capelage nécessaire . . . . . *Franc.*
Emeril en poudre . . . . *Défendu.*
Encre ordinaire et de toute autre sorte . . „
Epingles et aiguilles à cheveux . . . „

Fer-blanc laqué . . . . . „
—— ouvré, de toute sorte, laqué ou non-laqué . „
Fermoirs de fourneaux . . . . „
Feutre de laine grossière . . . . „
Filets pour la pêche . . . . „
Fouets, cravaches et gaules de toute espèce . . „
Fourrage . . . . . *Franc.*
Frange d'or, d'argent fins et faux, de soie, de laine, de coton, de fil, de même que celles en mi-soie, et de toute autre sorte . . . . *Défendu.*

Galanga (racine de) en poudre . . . „
Galons d'or et d'argent fins et faux . . „

Gants de toute autre sorte que ceux de canepin de peau de poule . . . . . *Défendu.*
Gingembre moulu ou rapé . . . . . „
Girandoles de toute sorte . . . . . „
Glacets . . . . . „
Glands de chêne . . . . . *Franc.*
Gravures et estampes sans cadres . . „
——— avec cadres . . . . *Défendu.*
Grenats naturels bruts . . . . *Franc.*
——— dans toute sorte d'ouvrages et montés . *Défendu.*

Habillemens cousus de toute sorte d'hommes et de femmes (excepté ceux à l'usage des voyageurs venant en Russie) . . . . . *Défendu.*
Hameçons de toute espèce, et lignes de pêcheur . „
Harnois, de toute sorte . . . . . „
Horlogerie, ouvrages avec ornemens métalliques, en marbre, *&c.* . . . . . „
——— pendules astronomiques, et chronomètres, dans des boîtes de bois . . . *Franc.*
——— montres de poche à boîte en similor, en cuivre doré ou argenté . . *Défendu.*
Housses de chevaux . . . . . „
Huile de lin et de chanvre ou de chenevis . . „
—— de navette . . . . . „
—— préparée pour l'éclairage . . . „
—— odorante, dans des flacons taillés et en métaux „

Indigo, poussière d' . . . . . „
Instrumens d'astronomie . . . . *Franc.*
Ivoire rapé . . . . . *Défendu.*
—— ouvré de toute sorte . . . . „
—— brûlé ou calciné . . . . . „
Jais monté . . . . . „
Jarretières de toute sorte . . . . „
Jeux (igri) de toute sorte, comme d'échecs, de Toccadille, et autres . . . . . „

Laine écrue . . . . . *Franc.*

Laine, tissus, draps de toute qualité, de couleur verte, blanche, et noire . . . . . *Franc.*
—— draperies de toute sorte imprimées . . *Défendu.*
—— Casimirs et demi-draps verts, noirs, et blancs . „
—— les mêmes imprimés . . . „
—— ratines et vigogne, toutes sortes de rubans et franges de laine et mi-laine . . „
Lanternes de toute sorte . . . . „
Lapis-lazuli monté . . . . „
Légumes verts . . . . . *Franc.*
Lin et chanvre écrus . . . . „
—— tillé et peigné . . . . „
—— étoupes de lin . . . . „
—— chanvre tillé et peigné . . . „
—— étoupes de chanvre . . . . „
—— toiles blanches de lin et de chanvre . . *Défendu.*
—— idem teintes, imprimées, &c. . . . „
—— toiles à voile . . . . „
—— flammades . . . . . „
—— toile ravenduk . . . . „
—— canevas . . . . . „
—— toile de lin cirée, ou gommée . . „
—— nappes, serviettes, &c. . . . „
—— les mêmes en blanc, mêlés de coton et de soie . „
—— mouchoirs de poche de toute sorte . . „
—— rubans et ficelles de lin . . . „
—— boutons de fil pour chemises, &c. . . „
—— de chanvre :—
—— bas, bonnets de nuit et gants de fils de lin et de chanvre . . . . . „
—— filets de pêche . . . . . „
Linge (belic) de toute sorte cousu et non ourlé, excepté celui appartenant aux voyageurs . . . „
Livres imprimés et manuscrits en toutes langues, en feuilles ou brochés . . . . *Franc.*
—— en papier blanc et reliés . . . *Défendu.*
Lustres de toute sorte . . . . „

Macaroni, losanges, et autres pâtes . . „

Machines mécaniques, et modèles de nouvelles inventions qui sont propres à l'agriculture, aux arts et métiers . . . . . *Franc.*
Malachites brutes . . . . . „
——— ouvrées, montées . . . *Défendu.*
Marbres ouvrés avec ornemens en bronze, *&c.* . „
Marcassites en masses . . . . *Franc.*
——— montées . . . . *Défendu.*
Masques de toute sorte . . . . „
Matelas et oreillers de plumes et duvet, (excepté ceux à l'usage des voyageurs) . . . „
——— et oreillers de crin . . . „
Mèches de coton . . . . . „
Mercerie fine, savoir, toute sorte d'ouvrages menus en or, *&c.* . . . . . „
Métaux, platine en grains, en masses, et en lingots . *Franc.*
——— ouvré . . . . . *Défendu.*
——— or brut, en masses, *&c.* . . . *Franc.*
——— — ouvré de toute sorte . . . *Défendu.*
——— — passementerie d'or tiré, d'or filé, lames, et tout ouvrage doré . . . „
——— argent en masses, *&c.* . . . *Franc.*
——— ——— ouvré de toute sorte . . *Défendu.*
——— argent cuivré (med.) . . . *Franc.*
——— cuivre en vaisselle et ouvrages de tout genre *Défendu*
——— ——— (tissus de fil de) à l'usage des fabriques *Franc.*
——— ——— ouvré de toute sorte . . . *Défendu.*
——— ——— laiton vieux brisé en barres, et en feuilles roulées . . . . . „
——— ——— (ouvrages de) de toute sorte, excepté ceux dénommés aux articles instrumens „
——— fer (minéral de) . . . . *Franc.*
——— — generally coming by sea . . *Défendu.*
——— acier, ciseaux à doubles branches à tondre les draps . . . . . *Franc.*
——— ——— couteaux, fourchettes, pinces, mouchettes, serrures, et cadena . *Défendu.*
——— ——— lames d'épées, de sabres, et de poignards non-damasquinées, en or et en argent . . . . . „

Métaux, acier, lames d'épées, de sabres, et de poignards damasquinées, en or et en argent . . *Défendu.*
——— ——— couteaux et fourchettes, aves des manches en argent plaqué ou argentés et dorés . . . . ,,
——— ——— objets de mercerie fine en acier, comme il a été dit de la mercerie fine en or et en argent . . . ,,
——— ouvrages en fer et cuivre étamés . . ,,
——— fil de fer ouvré de toute sorte . . ,,
——— étain ouvré de toute sorte . . . ,,
——— plomb ouvré, comme balles dragées, en feuilles, et autres . . . . ,,
——— bismuth, en étaim de glace . . . *Franc.*
——— alliages métalliques ouvrés . . *Défendu.*
Microscopes de toute sorte . . . . *Franc.*
Miel brut, et sirop de miel . . . . *Défendu.*
Miniatures comme objets d'arts . . . *Franc.*
Miroirs et glaces étamées . . . . *Défendu.*
Monnaies et médailles d'or, d'argent et de cuivre étrangères . . . . . *Franc.*
——— d'or, d'argent et de cuivre, au coin de Russie ,,
——— de billon, sayoir, les Berlinki, les zvelferi, les ditki, les demi-florins, et les doubles florins . . . . *Défendu.*
Mosaïques non-montés . . . . *Franc.*
——— montés . . . . *Défendu.*
Mouchoirs de toute sorte, en soie, demi-soie, de lin, de coton, non-dénommés séparément . . ,,
Moulins à café et à poivre . . . . ,,
Moutarde (farine et confection de) . . . ,,
Munitions de guerre en fer de fonte et en fer, comme canons, obus, bombes, boulets, et autres . . ,,
Musccarbar*dein* . . . . . ,,
Musique imprimée en feuilles ou brochée . . *Franc.*

Nacre de perle, ouvré ou monté . . . *Défendu.*
Nattes par Archangel et Onega . . . *Franc.*
Nitre raffiné . . . . . *Défendu.*

Objets de collection appartenans aux cabinets d'histoire naturelle . . . . . *Franc.*
Oiseaux tués . . . . . „
Opiates dentifrices de toute sorte . . . *Défendu.*
Os d'animaux rapés . . . . . „
— ouvrés non-dénommés . . . . „
Ouates (vata) de toute sorte . . . . „

Paille nettoyée, ouvrée en boîtes, étuis, et autres ouvrages non-dénommés . . . . „
Pains, biscuit, et craquelins . . . . „
—— à l'usage des voyageurs . . . *Franc.*
—— d'épice et massepains . . . *Défendu.*
—— à cacheter et à chanter . . . „
Papiers (rognures de) . . . . *Franc.*
——— toute sorte de feuilles de papier, nommés cartes-blanches, blanc-signés polices de chargemens ou de connaissemens, gravées et destinées à pareils usages . . . . *Défendu.*
——— papier mâché et ouvré de toute sorte . „
Parasols et parapluies . . . . „
Parchemin (coupures et rognures de) . . *Franc.*
Parures de tête de dames, savoir, bonnets, chapeaux de soie, toques, et autres parures de ce genre . *Défendu.*
Passemens (Baponi) d'or et d'argent fins et faux, de soie, de laine, et de tissus, mêlés, de toute sorte . „
Pâte d'amandes . . . . . „
Pelleteries, fourures, (tu le nei) et toute autre pelleterie sans exception . . . . . „
——— ouvrées de toute sorte, comme sacs, pélisses, robes-de-chambre fourrées, bonnets fourrés, manchons, et autres, sans exception „
——— les pelleteries ou fourures importées sur des bâtimens Russes par les navigateurs commerçans Russes . . . *Franc.*
Perles fines brutes . . . . . „
—— ouvrées . . . . . *Défendu.*
—— montées . . . . . „
Pharmacies portatives, savoir, boîtes contenant des remèdes à l'usage domestique . . .

Pierres brutes	*Franc.*
——— à filtrer	,,
——— montées	*Défendu.*
Piment des Anglais	,,
——— moulu	,,
Pinceaux de soie de porc	,,
——— à barbe avec manches en écaille, en ivoire, *&c.*	,,
Pipes à fumer montées	,,
Plumes à écrire	,,
——— épluchées de toute sorte	,,
Poids et mesures, excepté ceux à l'usage des pharmaciens	,,
Poils de porc et de sanglier	*Franc.*
——— ouvrés de toute sorte	*Défendu.*
Poissons frais de toute espece	*Franc.*
——— préparés par les commerçans Russes et importés sur des vaisseaux Russes	,,
Poivre blanc et noir pilé	*Défendu.*
Pommades de toute sorte	,,
Pompes à incendie	*Franc.*
Porte-feuilles et livrets de toute sorte, garnis ou non-garnis, excepté les étuis d'instrumens de chirurgie	*Défendu.*
Poterie (ouvrages de)	,,
Poudre à poudrer, ou de senteur	,,
——— à tirer fine et de canon	,,
Poupées de toute sorte	,,
Presles, feuilles ou tiges de jonc	*Franc.*
——— ouvrées	*Défendu.*
Queues de cheval	*Franc.*
——— de bœufs, de vaches	,,
Rapades et vitrifications	*Défendu.*
——— ouvrées	,,
——— montées	,,
Rideaux et stores de toute sorte	,,
Ridicules ou sacs de dames de toute sorte	,,
Robinets de toute sorte	,,
Rubans de coton, de fil, de soie, de laine, et de toute sorte non-dénommés	,,

Sacs en toile de toute sorte . . . *Défendu.*
Selles, et toute sorts d'ouvrages de sellerie . . „
Semence de jardins potagers, &c. . . . *Franc.*
——— de coton . . . . . „
——— de lin . . . . . „
——— de chanvre . . . . „
——— de navette . . . . „
——— de pavot . . . . . „
——— de rhubarbe . . . . „
——— de zedoaire . . . . „
Serpentine (pierre) avec ornemens . . . *Défendu.*
Soie écrue . . . . . *Franc.*
Soieries, étoffes d'une seule couleur, ou d'une couleur changeante, bariolées à carreaux, avec dessins de couleur . . . . . *Défendu.*
——— les mêmes étoffes imprimées . . „
——— les mêmes avec doublures, ou collées . „
——— les mêmes tissues ou brochées . . „
——— les mêmes avec de l'or ou de l'argent . „
——— velours de soie bariolés et imprimés . „
——— les mêmes avec or et argent fins et faux . „
——— gazes et crêpes blancs, unis, tissus, brodés, teints, bariolés, &c. . . . „
——— tapis de soie . . . . „
——— rubans de soie, avec or et argent fins et faux „
——— les mêmes collés ou doublés . . . „
——— rubans de chevalerie . . . „
——— toute sorte de tricots et d'ouvrages en soie tressés . . . . . „
——— mi-soieries :— . . . . „
——— tissus de soie mêlés de laine, de coton, ou de fil, de diverses couleurs, bariolés, et avec dessins colorés . . . . „
——— les mêmes imprimés . . . „
——— les mêmes collés ou doublés . . „
——— les mêmes brochés avec de la paille et autres matières de ce genre . . . „
——— toute sorte d'étoffes et ouvrages de mi-soie, avec or et argent fins et faux . . „
——— nappes, serviettes, &c. . . . „

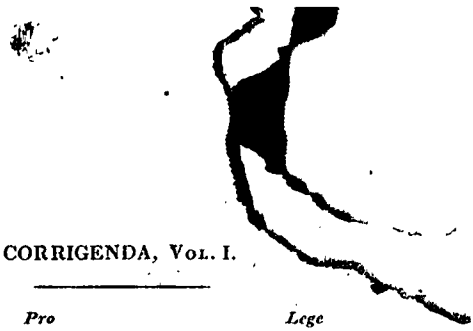
Son d'amandes . . . . . *Défendu.*
Soufflets de toute sorte . . . . . „
Sucre raffiné, mêlés lumps, et sucre-candi en pains, en morceaux, et pilé . . . . . „
Suif de toute sorte . . . . . „

Tabatières de toute sorte . . . . . „
Tableaux à huile sans cadres . . . *Franc.*
Talc transparent . . . . . *Défendu.*
Tapisseries en papiers peints et imprimés . . „
Terres de porcelaine ou Derle et cailloux à fayence, *&c.* *Franc.*
Thé de toute sorte (excepté par terre) . . *Défendu.*
Thermomètres . . . . . *Franc.*
Torches résineuses . . . . *Défendu.*
Tripoli ou alana en poudre . . . . „
Tuiles par les portes de la Mer Noire . . *Franc.*
Tuyaux de pipe de bois faits au tour, ou dos de cuir tressés, et de toute autre sorte . . . *Défendu.*

Vaisselle avec or et argent peinte avec bordures et bas-reliefs . . . . . „
——— de porcelaine de toute sorte . . „
——— de terre grossière . . . . „
——— de bois . . . . . „
Vermicelles . . . . . „
Verres et cristaux montées . . . . „
——— pour fenêtres, vaisselle de verre, chandeliers, *&c.* . . . . . „
——— optiques de toute sorte . . . *Franc.*
Veziga . . . . . „
Viande de toute sorte fraiche, fumée, salée, *&c.* . *Défendu.*
Vinaigres parfumés . . . . . „
Voitures . . . . . „

Yeux d'écrévisses pilés . . . . „

END OF THE FIRST VOLUME.



CORRIGENDA, Vol. I.

Page	*Pro*	*Lege*
46	at my	of any
95	River Fiord	dele, River
97	dusk. The next day in	dusk the next day. In
15 and 171	stork	stock
120	base	bare
139	Skutelan	Schutelæn
168	Sugel	Sergel
172	all the Swedes believe	they believe
260	ten thousand	one thousand and ninety
265	eight hundred thousand pounds	eight hundred thousand rubles
293	Vizborgside	Wiborgside
320	post	frost
335	grass	quass
339	the now late duke	dele, now late
343	Zelagin	Ylagin
347	Telegorskas	Telegoes
357	an uncommon	no uncommon
386	Riebnez	Nichnes
426	levy	levée
427	Mere	Mère
438	misplayed	misplaced
480	talent	fashion
497	superieuse	superieure
528	Kajan	Kazan
401 and 551	*chefs d'œuvres*	*chefs d'œuvre*

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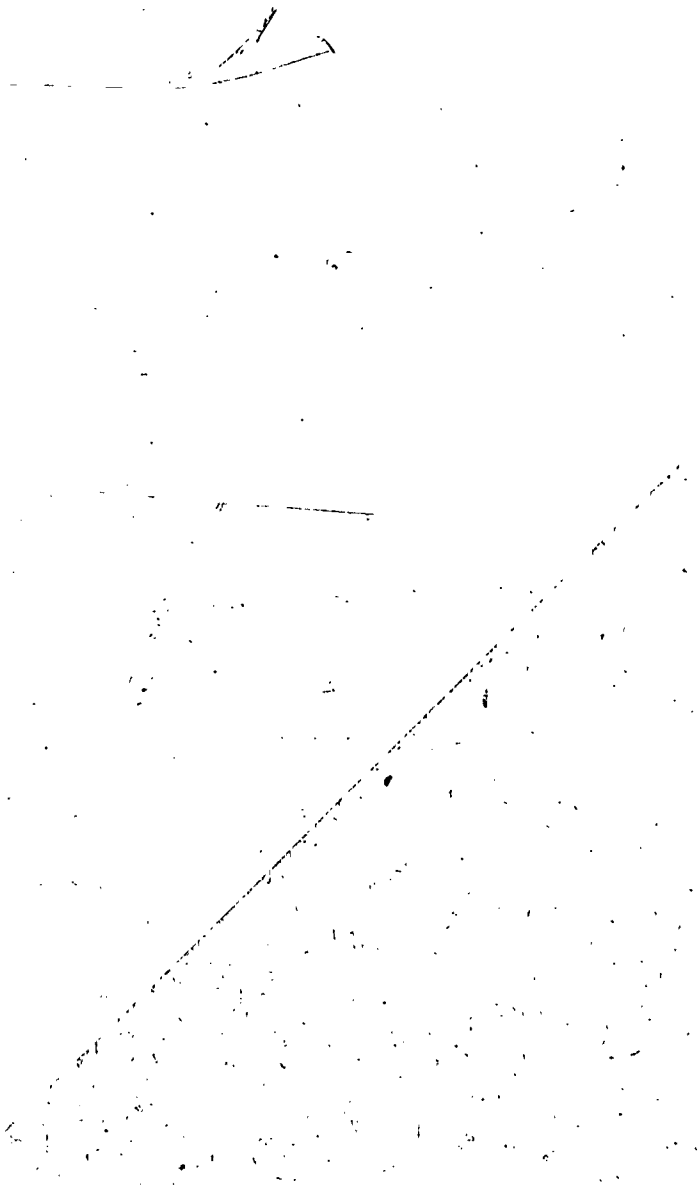

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